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The Bombay Gazette.

No. 40,090—NEW SERIES.

BOMBAY:—THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1894.

PRICE, 8 ANNAS.
THE INDIAN RAILWAY
TRAVELLERS' GUIDE
CONTAINING
The Special Time and Fair Tables of all the Indian Railway Companies, Steam Boats, and Dak Companies, Places of interest along the Coast, Postal and Telegraphic information, the Routes between the Principal Towns of Northern, Central, Southern, and Western India, &c.
WITH A COLOURED MAP OF INDIA.
BOMBAY:
Printed & Published at the "Bombay Gazette" Steam Press.

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE.

Vessels.	Tons.	H.P.	Captains.	Saturday 1894.
†* GANGES	4206	800	G. W. Atkinson	17th Feb.
B.I. ROME	5545	[illegible]	A. B. Daniell	24th „
†* SUTLEJ	4205	[illegible]	W. Worcester	3rd March.
B.I. CARTHAGE	5013	1600	M. de Horne	10th „
† GANGES	4206	800	G. W. Atkinson	17th „
B.I. CLYDE	4136	800	J. L. Parfitt	24th „
†* SUTLEJ	4205	800	W. Worcester	31st „
B.I. OCEANA	6362	1500	E. Stewart	7th April.
† SIAM	3050	500	H. Weighell	14th „
B.I. ORIENTAL	5045	1200	L. H. Moule	21st „
†* ASSAM	3090	500	T. F. Creery	28th „
B.I. HIMALAYA	6898	2000	J. Orman	5th May.
†* SIAM	3050	500	H. Weighell	12th „
B.I. THAMES	4113	800	W. A. Seaton	19th „

The Steamers marked B.I. proceed to Brindisi, Malta, Gibraltar, Plymouth, and London.

† These Vessels proceed to Aden only, and Passengers tranship there to a Steamer for Brindisi and London. No Passengers for Marseilles can proceed by these Steamers.

†* These Vessels proceed to Aden only, and Passengers tranship there to Steamers for Brindisi, Marseilles and London.

SPECIAL STEAMERS TO LONDON, CALLING AT MARSEILLES.

TUESDAY 5 P.M.	Steamers.	Tons.	Horse Power.	Captain
March 20	Peninsular	5045	1200	A. C. Loggin.
April 17	Shannon	4189	800	E. Crewe.

Single and return Railway Tickets from Brindisi to London by the Mail route can be obtained, and Coupons are issued for places in the Sleeping Cars of the special "P. & O. Express."

Heavy Baggage must be sent to the P. & O. Dockyard at Mazagon before 9 a.m. on day of sailing, or on the afternoon of the previous day.

A Steam Barge leaves the Apollo Bunder at noon on the day of sailing to convey passengers on board, and only hand-packages will be received.

The attention of passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage correctly labelled with Port of destination.

Passage-tickets are issued to London *via* Japan and Vancouver.

TO COLOMBO, STRAITS, CHINA, JAPAN, AUSTRALIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.

Steamers leave Bombay on or about the undernoted dates, conveying H. M.'s Mails from Colombo to China. Passengers for Australia tranship at Colombo:—

February 21st — March 7th. — March 21st
April 4th — April 18th.

In addition to the above CARGO STEAMERS leave for China and Japan at frequent intervals, with liberty to call at any port or ports.

For further particulars apply to

J. M. SHIELDS,
Acting Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.
Bombay, 14th February, 1894.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S.N. Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

ACCELERATED SERVICE TO BRINDISI AND TRIESTE, VIA ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Steamers.	Captains.	Tons.	H.P.	To sail on
IMPERATRIX	G. Nicolich	1,194	750	1st March.
IMPERATOR	C. Bechtinger	4,119	750	1st April.

A Surgeon and Stewardess on board of every Steamer.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY.

	1st Class	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE OR BRINDISI	Rs. 690	Rs. 325	Rs. 150

Steamers for BOMBAY leave TRIESTE on the 3rd, and BRINDISI on the 5th, of each month.

ORDINARY SERVICE TO TRIESTE, VIA ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Steamers.	Captain.	Tons.	H.P.	To sail on
POSEIDON	A. Fellner	3,878	500	9th March.
MARQ. BACQUEHEM	G. Walluschnig	4,169	750	9th April.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
To TRIESTE	Rs. 500	Rs. 300	Rs. 150

STEAMERS for BOMBAY LEAVE TRIESTE on the 21st of each month.

RETURN TICKETS.

By either Accelerated or Ordinary Service to TRIESTE.

	1st Class	2nd Class
AVAILABLE for 6 MONTHS	Rs. 960	Rs. 575
AVAILABLE for 12 MONTHS	Rs. 1060	Rs. 625

INCLUDING WINE OR BEER SUPPLIED AT MEALS.

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON.

1st and 2nd Class Single and Return are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothard's, and other Routes.

STEAM TO COLOMBO, PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, SHANGHAI AND KOBE

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	H.P.	To sail on
MARIA VALERIE	G. Costanzo	4,235	350	21st Feb.

Connecting at Colombo with the s. s. AGLAIA to Madras and Calcutta.

For further Particulars, Freight, Passage, &c., apply to

O. VON HOFFER,
Agent.
Sassoon House, 50, Church Gate Street, Bombay, Feb. 9th, 1894.

"ANCHOR" LINE.

DEPARTURES FROM BOMBAY TO MARSEILLES, LIVERPOOL AND LONDON.

1894.

Vessel.	Tons.	Captain.	To leave Bombay
ASIA	3,561	J. Laird	March 2.
PERSIA	3,517	R. Hutchinson	March 17.
HISPANIA	3,380	S. Abrey	March 31.
ARABIA	3,514	C. H. Hillcoat	April 19.
BRITANNIA	3,069	J. Brown	May 3.
ASIA	3,561	J. Laird	June 8.

Passengers can book through to London (Overland from Marseilles) on favourable terms.

The Railway journey from Marseilles to London occupies about thirty hours.

Each Steamer carries a duly qualified Surgeon and an Experienced Stewardess, and is fitted out with every Comfort for First Class Passengers.

All the Cabins are on the Upper Deck.

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W. & A. GRAHAM & Co.,
Agents.
Graham's Buildings, Bombay, January 17, 1894.

CITY LINE OF STEAMERS.

BOMBAY TO LIVERPOOL.

Vessel.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail about
"CITY OF EDINBURGH"	Wm. Frame	3,230	17th Feb.
"CITY OF KHIOS"	T. Macpherson	3,245	17th Mar.

THESE STEAMERS, which are lighted throughout with the Electric Light Carry a Surgeon and Stewardess. Two berth Cabins on Deck. Baths, Punkahs and every Comfort for First-Class Passengers. Crew entirely European. Apply to

SIR CHARLES FORBES & Co.,
Agents.
Bombay, 6th February, 1894.

GRINDLAY, GROOM & CO.,
BOMBAY.
GRINDLAY & CO., CALCUTTA,
BANKERS AND AGENTS.

PASSENGER DEPARTMENT.

HOMEWARD PASSAGES booked without charge and on the most favourable terms. Berth carefully selected, with special attention to grouping.

SLEEPING CAR AND CONTINENTAL RAILWAY TICKETS procured.

RAILWAY OFFICIALS, MISSIONARIES, &c. booked on terms of existing concessions.

PASSENGERS met on arrival.

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HAND-BOOKS supplied gratis, and general information promptly given.

LONDON AGENTS.—MESSRS. GRINDLAY & Co.

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THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, (LIMITED).

Intend to despatch Steamers as follows:—

FOR KURRACHEE AND KATHIAWAR COAST.

S. S. "KARAGOLA," 1,168 tons, on the 20th February, at 10 a.m., calling at Verawal, Mangrole, Porebunder, Cutch Mandvie and Kurrachee, in the foregoing or any order, weather permitting.

S. S. "PACHUMBA," 1,168 tons, on the 17th February, at 10 a.m.

FOR KURRACHEE DIRECT.

S. S. "KOLA," 1,168 tons, on the 18th February, on arrival of In-coming English Mail Steamer.

FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF.

S. S. "PEMBA," 1,554 tons, on the 15th February, at Noon, calling at Kurrachee, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bahrein, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah, and Busreh, in the foregoing or any order.

FOR COAST AND CALCUTTA.

S. S. "RAJPUTANA," 2,030 tons, on the 15th February, calling at such Ports as may be arranged. Particulars can be ascertained on application to the Undersigned.

FOR ADEN AND ZANZIBAR.

S. S. "JAVA," 1,554 tons, on the 16th February, calling at Aden, Mombassa, and Zanzibar, in the foregoing or any order.

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co.,
Bombay, 14th February, 1894. Agents.

KING, KING & CO.,
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Lists of the LATEST SAILINGS, with Fares and full information as to berths available, furnished at once.

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SOCIETA RIUNITE FLORIO RUBATTINO.

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C. BARBORO, Agent.
Sassoon House, Elphinstone Circle, Bombay, Feb. 9, 1894.

HALL LINE OF STEAMERS.

BOMBAY TO LIVERPOOL.

Vessel.	Tons.	H.P.	To Sale about.
"WERNETH HALL"	4,100	500	15th March 1894.

THIS STEAMER is well known on this Line as being most comfortably fitted in all respects for Passengers, but carries neither Doctor nor Stewardess.

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	Rs.
Winding Monthly, 10 inches dial, made to our special order and design......Rs. 45, Rs 85, and	95
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The above Clocks are made to our special order, and have all been thoroughly tested and regulated, and as a guarantee of their excellence, our name has been impressed on the dial plate.

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OVERLAND SUMMARY, published Weekly on the Departure of English Mail, 28 Pages of the Pall Mall Budget size, containing all the information of the previous week, carefully arranged, Army Orders, &c. Indian Subscription, Rs. 12 per year, free of Postage; English Subscription, Rs. 17 per year, including Postage.

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TREACHER & Co., LD.,
BOMBAY.
BYCULLA.
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	Cash.		Credit.	
	Bots.	½ bots.	Bots.	½ bots.
BASS'S BEER—				
by Foster and Sons ...Per doz.	7 8	5 4	8 6	5 14
Do. by Stone L. G. A....... „	7 0	4 12	7 14	5 6
GUINESS'S DUBLIN STOUT—				
by Foster and Sons ... „	7 8	5 4	8 6	5 14
Do. by Burke and Co.... „	7 0	4 12	7 14	5 6
Romford Light Bitter Ale ...... „	5 12	4 4	6 8	4 12
Do. Do. Per case 3 doz. qts.	16 12	...	18 10	...
Do. Do. Do. 6 doz. pts.	......	24 0	......	28 6
Treacher's Genuine Pilsener ...Per doz.	5 4	3 8	5 14	4 0
Do. Per case 4 doz. bots. or 6 doz. ½ bots.	20 0	...	22 4	...

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"BACHELOR'S JARS"

Containing 1, 2, or 4 gallons of the finest Scotch Whisky. Plated Taps Supplied if required. Send Jars to the Godown to be RE-FILLED.

PRICE per Gallon for Cash, Rs. 14-12 and Rs. 12.

VALUE of Jars allowed on Return.

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KNOWN TO BE EXCEEDINGLY PLEASANT AND DELIGHTFUL.

Imperiales	in Boxes of	25 with silver foil.Rs.	7 8	per box.
Primo de Revelo	„	25	6 0	„
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Non Plus Ultra	„	50	9 0	„
Exquisitos	„	50 „	7 0	„
Princes as (small size)	„	50 „	5 0	„
Neuvo Habano Especial	„	100 „	6 0	„
Do. do. No. 1	„	100 „	5 0	„
Do. do. No. 2	„	100 „	4 8	„
Do. do. No. 3	„	100 „	4 0	„

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TH. VAFIADIS & CO.,
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10 per Cent. Discount for Cash.

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TWO EUROPEAN FOREMEN WANTED, with practical experience in Locomotive Workshops; one to take charge at a Running Shed. Salary Rs. 200 per mensem; the other as ASSISTANT FOREMAN, in the Machine Shop at Hubli. Salary Rs. 170. Applications stating age and full particulars of experience, with Copies at Testimonials, should be submitted before the end of the current month.

C. P. WHITCOMBY,
Loco. and Carr. Supdt.
Hubli, 10 February, 1894.

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Of the Firm of
J. and R. SHORROCK, Darwin, Lancashire,

MAKERS of Cotton Weaving Machinery, Paper-making Machinery, Steam Engines, Shafting, &c., &c., is on a short Visit to this country, and will be pleased to submit Estimates for above Machinery or make appointments for Consultations.

Address:—WATSON'S HOTEL, Bombay.

CUMMOO JAFFER SULLIMAN'S BAZAAR.

FOR SALE.

ONE English-built Canoe LANDAU, with patent Self-acting Hood, folding Steps, &c., by Watson, of Lowestoft.

One New Single-seated BROUGHAM, with Brake suitable for one or pair, by Windower.

One New stylish VICTORIA, hung on Half C. Spring behind, by Windower.

Second-hand LANDAUS, VICTORIAS, and BROUGHAMS, by other well-known Makers.

HOUSES FURNISHED with latest Style, neat furniture.

A fresh Consignment of best real MOCCA COFFEE in Bags of 7lbs. Price Rs. 6 per Bag.

Apply to
CUMMOO JAFFER SULLIMAN & Co.

JUST UNPACKED.—A Fresh Supply of FRY'S and CADBURY'S CONCENTRATED COCA in ¼ and ½ lb. tins. Also a great Variety of English and French Confectionery, Chocolate and Chocolate Creams. Ices, Wines, Spirits of the Best quality at the

VIENNA CONFECTIONERY,
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IT having come to our knowledge that certain Firms are offering Steel Card Clothing and calling it "PLOUGH-GROUND," we beg to give notice that, we, the INVENTORS and PATENTEES, along with the Licensees named below, are the only Firms who make this class of Card Clothing.

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JOSEPH SKYES BROS, Ld., Card Makers, Lindley; Near HUDDERSFIELD, England.
WILSON & INGHAM, Card Factory, Liversedge, Yorkshire, England.
HORSFALL & BICKHAM, Bridgewater Works, Pendleton, Manchester, England.

PATENTEES:

ASHWORTH BROS.,
Moss Brooks Works, Collyhurst, MANCHESTER, England.

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SORABJEE SHAPURJEE & Co.,
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BY

TODAR MAL.

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THE MOST PRACTICAL GUARANTEE.

PERFECTION ASSURED.

MESSRS. MARCKS & Co., Limited, the Practical Watch Manufacturers of Bombay and Poona, claiming as they do a pre-eminent position for their WATCHES, and guaranteeing, superlatively, the VERY BEST VALUE, propose to enter into a compact for the purchase of any of their MODEL WATCHES, with a view to proving in the most practical manner possible the immense superiority of their Pocket Watches over the thousands of Machine-made Watches now so extensively offered to the Public.

They agree to give to an approved or known Customer one of their PERFECT WATCHES for trial for a month, and if after the expiration of this period the Watch has been found to have kept time within one minute, the price of the Watch becomes due; but if, on the other hand, the Watch has varied over one minute, they agree not only to forfeit their claim to the value of the Watch but to

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Under such an arrangement one cannot possibly get away from the fact that nothing but STERLING VALUE is offered; and it unquestionably proves the unbounded confidence this Firm has in the recommendation of their productions in Watches.

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BAHADUR REGALIAS	6 inches long, in boxes of			50
BAHADUR PRINCESSES	5	„	„	50
BAHADUR No. 1	4½	„	„	100
BAHADUR „ 2	4	„	„	100
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BAHADUR MANILLAS	4	„	„	100
BAHADUR MORNING WHIFFS	3	„	„	200

GENUINE BAHADURS are obtainable from all RESPECTABLE Dealers throughout India.

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THE LIGHTEST, PUREST, AND MOST WHOLESOME IN THE MARKET.

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Highest Diploma and Silver Medal, Calcutta, 1883-84.
In Excellent Condition. Fresh Supplies always available.

Rs. 22 per case of 4 dozen Quarts. Rs. 31 per case of 8 dozen Pints.

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AGENTS FOR THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.
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PULVERMACHER'S WORLD-FAMED GALVANIC BELTS, for the cure of NERVOUS COMPLAINTS, have received Testimonials from THREE PHYSICIANS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN and the leading Physicians of Nine London Hospitals, including Forty Members of the Royal College of Physicians of London.

The distressing symptoms of NERVOUS EXHAUSTION, loss of MUSCULAR POWER, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, PARALYSIS, EPILEPSY, &c., are speedily removed by means of **Pulvermacher's World-famed Galvanic Belts**, which convey the electric current direct to the affected parts, gradually stimulating and strengthening all the nerves and muscles, and speedily arresting all symptoms of premature waste and decay.

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For Full Price List and Particulars, see new Pamphlet, "GALVANISM: NATURE'S CHIEF RESTORER OF IMPAIRED VITAL ENERGY." Post free from

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194, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.
(ESTABLISHED OVER FORTY YEARS).

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GRAND OPENING NIGHT,
TO-NIGHT, THURSDAY, 9 P.M.
Doors Open at 8 p.m.
All the Great Artistes.

4—LADY EQUESTRIENNES—4.
A HOST OF FUNNY CLOWNS.
THE GREAT GILBARTO.
GRAND PYRAMID OF ACROBATS.
Miss NELLIE BAILEY.
MDLLE. LE BLONDE.
Europe and America's Greatest Lady Riders.
Their Challenge Equestrianiasm.
MR. GEORGE HARMSTON,
THE WIZARD HORSEMAN.

70—GREAT ARTISTS—70.

A Superb Stud of Horses and Ponies, the whole forming an Overwhelming Organization that will live in the memory of man as long as THE WORLD GOES ROUND.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, FEB. 17TH,
FIRST GRAND MATINEE.
Doors Open at 3 o'clock; to commence at 4 sharp.

Children under 10 years, Half-price to All Parts of the Circus.

NIGHT.—Doors Open 8 P.M. Commence 9 P.M.
Box Office at MITCHELL'S, where Seats can be Reserved.

PRICES OF ADMISSION:

	Rs.	a.
Boxes of 6 Chairs	20	0
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Front platform Chairs	3	0
Second platform Chairs	2	0
Stalls, Carpeted Seats	1	0
Gallery (for Natives only)	0	8

NO HALF-PRICE TO EVENING PERFORMANCES.

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ROBERT LOVE	Manager.
CHAS. B. HICKS	Representative.
S. REICH	Agent.

BOMBAY SCOTTISH ORPHANAGE.

THE ANNUAL CONCERT,
In Aid of the FUNDS of the
BOMBAY SCOTTISH ORPHANAGE,
Will be held in the
TOWN HALL,
On THURSDAY, 7TH MARCH,
(not March 1st as Originally proposed).
Under the Patronage and in the Presence of
H. E. THE GOVERNOR AND LADY HARRIS.

The following Ladies and Gentlemen have kindly consented to take part:—Mrs. Macbeth, Miss Pedraza, Miss Pritchard, Mrs. Stanley-Smith, Miss Swift, Mr. A. F. Ferguson, Mr. Mant, Mr. McCausland, Mr. Schofield, Mr. Steuart. Accompanist: Mr. Seymour Dove.

Reserved Tickets, Price Rs. 4,
May now be obtained at Messrs. SOUNDY & Co.

THE TEXTILE FANCY DRESS BALL,

TOWN HALL,
MARCH 2ND, 1894.

NOTICE.

THE Public are informed that the WHOLE of that PORTION of the MAIDAN, which is Enclosed by the Waudby, Cruikshank and Esplanade Main Roads, will be RESERVED for the Police Authorities to enable them to Preserve Order on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, the 15th and 16th instant, from 5 to 10 A.M., daily, on the occasion of the REVIEW OF TROOPS.

R. H. VINCENT,
Acting Commissioner of Police.
Police Commissioner's Office, Bombay, 14th February, 1894.

NOW READY.

THE INDIAN TEXTILE JOURNAL DIRECTORY OF INDIAN MANUFACTORIES.

Uniform with the Indian Textile Journal.
(Royal 4to) Price Rs. 5-8, post free.

Containing a list of Factories of every description in India and Burma, descriptive Articles on Indian Industries, Statistical Tables, and details of the Acts and Rules affecting Commerce in the Empire.

To be had at the Office of the INDIAN TEXTILE JOURNAL, 27, Medows Street, Fort, Bombay.

FIGS and RAISINS.

JUST RECEIVED, per P. & O. "GANGES
A Small Consignment of
SMYRNA
FIGS and RAISINS (Seedless) Quality
NON PLUS ULTRA,
NEVER IMPORTED IN INDIA.
Packed in Neat Paper Boxes
of nearly 3 lbs each.

Figs	per Packet	Rs. 2
Raisins Sultanie, Seedless	„ „	2-8

N.B.—The Consignment being a Small one, Gentlemen are requested to book their Orders soon to prevent disappointment.

Apply Sharp to
D. MACROPOLO,
BOMBAY.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

GAIETY THEATRE.

LESSEE & DIRECTOR............MR. HARRY STANLEY.

TO-NIGHT, THURSDAY.
GRAND FASHIONABLE NAVAL NIGHT,
Under the Distinguished Patronage and in the Immediate Presence of
H. E. REAR-ADMIRAL W. R. KENNEDY,
Commanding H. M.'s Fleet, and Officers of the Royal Navy,
When will be Presented
The Immensely Popular and Sensational Drama,
In 5 Acts,
"HARBOUR LIGHTS."

SATURDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY,
The Most Popular and Successful of all the London Gaiety Burlesques,
"ROUE BLAS and the BLASE ROUE."

SELECTED AND SURPRISING PROGRAMME.
GRAND! INCREDIBLE!! MARVELLOUS!!!
(NEXT TO GAIETY THEATRE.)

THE GRAND ANATOMICAL MUSEUM.

A. SIMONS (the Proprietor) begs to intimate the Public that he will give a Series of Exhibitions, only a Fortnight in Bombay, of his Marvellous, Magnificent, and the Noblest Cabinet of Human and Comparative Anatomy, showing the different kinds of diseases of human and animal body, their Curious Structure, the Nature, Uses, and Functions of their several parts.

WAX-WORKS AND PANORAMA!!
THE GREAT ORIGINAL SPLENDID DISPLAY OF FULL LIFE-SIZE.
PRICE OF ADMISSION:—Annas 8.
Doors Open at 8 A.M. Commencing at 9 A.M. to 12 NOON and 4 P.M. to 12 mid-night.
For further particulars see Daily Newspapers.

BOMBAY ART SOCIETY.

THE ART EXHIBITION.
OPEN DAILY from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M.
MILITARY BAND EVERY EVENING.
ADMISSION: ONE RUPEE.
Children, Half-price.

BANKS.

NATIONAL BANK of INDIA, LIMITED.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL	£ 1,000,000.
PAID-UP CAPITAL	£ 500,000.
RESERVE FUND	£ 100,000.

HEAD OFFICE:
47, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E. C.
BRANCHES:
CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, MADRAS, COLOMBO, KARACHI, DELHI, RANGOON, TUTICORIN, KANDY NEWERA ELYA, MANDALAY, ZANZIBAR AND ADEN.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS are opened on which interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balances when the sum at credit exceeds Rs. 1,000.

When the accrued interest for Six Months does not amount to Rs. 10, no interest is allowed.

FIXED DEPOSITS are received for 12 Months at 4½ Per Cent Per Annum.

For Shorter Periods at Rates to be learned on Application.

BILLS of EXCHANGE payable in the Principal Cities of Europe, India, and Australia, purchased or collected.

DRAFTS issued at the Exchange of the day on the Bank's Head Office and Branches, also on Provincial Towns in Great Britain, on Paris and on the Chief Towns in Australia and New Zealand; and, when required, the Bank will forward the First of Exchange to the payees, free of charge. Remittances may also be sent by telegram.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks, and Shares, and receives same for safe custody realising Interest and Dividends when due.

H. CHALMERS,
Manager.

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL	£1,500,000
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL	£1,125,000

HEAD OFFICE:
65, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E. C.
BRANCHES:
BOMBAY, CALCUTTA, MADRAS, COLOMBO, KANDY GALLE, PENANG, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, HONGKONG, & SHANGHAI.

THE BANK receives FIXED DEPOSITS for one year at 4½ per cent. interest, and CURRENT DEPOSITS on TERMS which may be learned on Application.

Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

R. KENNEDY,
Manager.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid up Capital	$	100,00,000
Reserve Fund	$	39,00,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors	$	100,00,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS AND HEAD OFFICE IN HONGKONG.
T. JACKSON, *Chief Manager.*
London Bankers.—LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LD.

LONDON COMMITTEE:
ALBERT DEACON, Esq., (of Messrs. E. & A. Deacon).
E. F. DUNCANSON, Esq., (of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co).
WM. KESWICK, Esq., (of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.)
DAVID MACLEAN, Esq., 31, Lombard Street, E. C.
WM. ANASTATIUS JONES, Esq., (Director of the London and County Banking Co., Limited.)
EWEN CAMERON, Manager.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:—
LONDON, HONGKONG, SHANGHAI.

AMOY.	HANKOW.	PENANG.
BANGKOK.	HIOGO.	RANGOON.
BATAVIA.	ILOILO.	SAIGON.
BOMBAY.	LYONS.	SANFRANCISCO
CALCUTTA.	MANILA.	SINGAPORE.
COLOMBO.	NAGASAKI.	TIENTSIN.
FOOCHOW.	NEW YORK.	YOKOHAMA.
HAMBURG.	PEKING.	

BOMBAY AGENCY.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts at 1 Per Cent. per annum on Daily Balances if not under Rs. 1,000, and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000.

Money taken on Deposit for fixed Periods on terms to be learnt on application.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every Description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.

Drafts granted on London and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China, and Japan.

G. H. TOWNSEND,
Agent.
60, Church Gate Street Bombay; and at 31, Dalhousie Square South, Calcutta.

COMMERCIAL AND LAND MORTGAGE BANK (LIMITED).

HEAD OFFICE:—MADRAS.
BRANCHES:
BOMBAY and RAWALPINDI.
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, RUPEES TEN LAKHS.

CAPITAL CALLED UP	Rs. 6,30,000
CAPITAL IN RESERVE	Rs. 3,70,000
ACCUMULATED RESERVES	Rs. 6,57,922

BANKERS and AGENTS throughout INDIA, BURMA, CEYLON and in LONDON, EDINBURGH, DUBLIN.
FIXED DEPOSITS—12 months, 5 per cent.; 6 months, 4 per cent. per annum.
PRUDENTIAL FUND—Terms may be ascertained on application.
STERLING DEPOSITS—4 per cent. per annum on Money awaiting remittal.
CURRENT ACCOUNTS—2 per cent. per annum on balances over Rs. 250 and not exceeding Rs. 10,000.
LOANS and CASH CREDITS granted on Approved Security.
FIRE and LIFE INSURANCES arranged.
Every Description of Banking Business Transacted.
Full information and Rules furnished on application.

(By order of the Board)
P. A. CHURCHWARD,
Bombay Office: Esplanade Road. Offg. Manager.

NOTICES.

NOTICE.

OWING to the HEAVY FALL in EXCHANGE my PRICES, as noted in the Revised Price List, No. 5, have been RAISED 10 per cent. from THIS DAY.

R. DITMAR,
Late Theodor Knaust,
Lamp Warehouse.
Bombay, 10th February, 1894.

ROYAL BOMBAY YACHT CLUB.

THE HALF YEARLY GENERAL MEETING will be held at the Club House, on FRIDAY, the 23rd Feb., 1894, at 5-30 P.M.

T. W. C. LEATHEM,
Hon. Secretary.

BYCULLA CLUB.

THE HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the Byculla Club will be held at the Club House, on SATURDAY, the 24th February, at 6 o'clock P.M.

W. WEBB,
Hon. Secretary.
23rd January, 1894.

TIMBER.

TO BE SOLD by AUCTION, at HUTTIKERI, Aukola Taluk, North Kanara, on the 2nd MARCH, 1894.
Mutti Wood Round logs 72, about 46 Tons.
Nima Wood BEN TEAK Do. 189, about 173 Tons.
Firewood, about 185 Tons.
For further particulars address

B. J. HASELDEN,
Divisional Forest Officer, C. D. Kanara.

COMMERCIAL & LAND MORTGAGE BANK, LIMITED.

CAPITAL AND RESERVES ......Rs. 16,57,900.
SHORT PERIOD DEPOSITS.

NOTICE is hereby given that the BANK is RECEIVING DEPOSITS for SHORT PERIODS as under:—
2 Months at 5 per Cent. per annum.
3 and 4 Months at 6 per Cent. per annum.
Full particulars on application.

P. A. CHURCHWARD,
Officiating Manager.
Esplanade Road, Bombay.

THE VIENNA RESTAURANT.

BREAKFASTS, tiffins, and dinners, also per Plate, will be supplied at MODERATE RATES. Also Tea, Coffee, Cocoa, Chocolate, Turkish Coffee, Russian Punch are obtainable from 8 A. M. to 10 P. M., at the VIENNA CONFECTIONERY, 25, Church Gate Street. Private Arrangements can be made per month on application to the above.

C. HIRSCH.

GENERAL FAMILY PENSION FUND.

(ESTABLISHED 1870.)

NOTICE OF MEETING.

THE TWENTY-FOURTH GENERAL MEETING of the Suscribers to the Fund will be held at the Office of the Fund, No. 1, Grant's Lane, Calcutta at 3 P.M., on SATURDAY, the 24th February, 1894, to receive the Report of the Directors, and to consider such other matters as may be brought forward.

By Order of the Directors,
SYKES & Co.,
Secretaries.

PAINLESS AMERICAN DENTISTRY.

DR. LOUIS J. BISCHOFF,
LATE OF PHILADELPHIA.

1st Prizeman (Gold Medal) for Artificial Teeth, and late Demonstrator of Prosthetic Dentistry in the Pennsylvania Hospital of Dental Surgery.

Speciality: Crown, Bar, and Bridge Work, or Artificial Teeth without Plates.

Artificial Teeth made on the latest American principle. Gold and Enamel fillings. Painless Extractions.

Consultations free.
For appointment, &c., call or address
WATSON'S HOTEL, Bombay.

FROM THE
CEYLON "INDEPENDENT,"
September 14th, 1892.

"Dr. L. J. Bischoff, after studying Dental Surgery for Six years under the celebrated Dr. Uriah Kirk, of Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, graduated from the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery in 1881, carrying off the Gold Medal for Artificial Teeth in that year.

"In recognition of the distinguished position achieved by him, he was elected Demonstrator of Prosthetic Dentistry for the College, a position which he retained until '84.

"There being a call in Europe for men skilled in the profession to introduce American developments of scientific dentistry, Dr. Bischoff travelled to London, Paris, Berlin, Genova and Mascow, lecturing on and giving Clinical demonstrations on the Art of Dental Surgery. Of late he has been carrying on the same work in England.

"Ceylon has, it would seem, been most fortunate in securing the services of so eminent and skilful a Dentist."

Dr. BISCHOFF will shortly Visit BELGAUM, DHARWAR, BELLARY and other Towns in South India.

TOWELS! TOWELS!! TOWELS!!!

THE following are now available:—

		Per dozen. Rs.	a.
Honey Comb Towels	72 in. by 36 in. at	10	0
Do. do.	36 in. by 25 in. at	5	0
Turkish do.	22 in. by 36 in. at	6	0
Hand Towels	40 in. by 26 in. at	3	0

All of guaranteed durability.
For Samples, apply to the ELGIN MILLS, Cawnpore.

SECOND PAMPHLET.

THE BOMBAY RIOTS.

THE
GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION
AND THE
OFFICIAL REPORTS.
January 1894.

With the APPENDICES giving the LIST of the KILLED, the Military, Naval, and Volunteer Posts throughout the City.

Summary of the Trials at the Criminal Sessions of the High Court.

Re-published from the *Bombay Gazette.*

PRICE: 4 Annas.

BOMBAY GAZETTE OFFICES,
Albert Building, Fort.

GRATEFUL! COMFORTING!!

EPPS'S COCOA.

BREAKFAST.

"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws, which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately-flavoured beverage, which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us, ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame.—See article of the *Civil Service Gazette.*

Made simply with boiling water or milk.
Sold in ½lb. and pound tins, labelled thus:
JAMES EPPS & CO.,
HOMŒOPATHIC CHEMISTS, LONDON.
ALSO MAKER OF EPPS'S CHOCOLATE ESSENCE.

WINES, SPIRITS, BEERS, &c.

CLUB WINES.

PHIPSON AND Co., Bombay, are now supplying 190 Military Messes and 61 Clubs with the finest VINTAGE WINES from the following well-known Houses:—

CHRISTOPHER AND Co.	London.
GEORGE TANQUERAY & Co.	London.
PAGE AND SANDEMAN.	London.
JUSTERINI AND BROOKS.	London.
JOHN HARVEY AND SONS.	Bristol.
CARSTAIRS & ROBERTSON.	Leith.
POMMERY AND GRENO.	Rheims.
POL ROGER AND Co.	Rheims.
LANSON PERE ET FILS.	Rheims.
PERRIER JOUET AND Co.	Epernay.
HEIDSIECK AND Co.	Rheims.
PERINET ET FILS.	Rheims.
AYALA AND Co.	Chateau d'Ay.
ERNEST IRROY AND Co.	Rheims.
RUINART PERE ET FILS.	Rheims.
DESBORBES ET FILS.	Avize.
DAUMAL ET FILS.	Rheims.
DESBORDES ET FILS.	Avize.
COLIGNY FRERES.	Rheims.
J. SACCONE.	Gibraltar.
KIDD AND SHADBOLT.	London.
CURLIER FRERES.	Cognac.
LEACOCK AND Co.	Madeira.
COSSART GORDON AND Co.	Madeira
COCKBURN SMITHES & Co.	Oporto.
VAN ZELLERS AND Co.	Oporto.
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SIR ROBERT BURNETT & Co.	London.
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MAX GREGER & Co.	Budapest.
Jos. DIETZL.	Budapest.
WILLIAMS HUMBERT & Co.	Jeres.
C. MAREY & LIGER-BELAIR.	C'tes d'Or.
ACKERMANN-LAURANCE	Saumur.
C. A. LINDGREN AND Co.	Stockholm.
ANDREW ROWAN.	Melbourne.
T. P. GRIFFIN & Co.	London.
FRANK BAILEY AND Co.	London.

Secretaries and Presidents of Clubs and Military Messes can now obtain Wines from the above well-known Firms, without the inconvenience and expense of importing direct.

Price List on Application to
PHIPSON & CO.,
BOMBAY.

PERRIER JOUET & CO.'S
"B." BRAND
CHAMPAGNE,
in Magnums, Quarts and Pints.
LYON & CO.,
Sole Agents, Bombay.

CHAMPAGNES

SHIPPED BY
MOET & CHANDON, EPERNAY,
Proprietors of 2,500 Acres of the Finest Vineyards in the Champagne District.
(ESTABLISHED 1743.)
DRY IMPERIAL, 1884.
Per case of 1 doz. Quarts ....Rs. 73
Per case of 2 doz. Pints............... „ 77
USED AT ST. JAMES'S PALACE AND MARLBOROUGH HOUSE.

CHARLES BOILEAU FILS CHAMPAGNE.
A Pure Wholesome Wine at a Low Price,
As supplied to
H. R. H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.
Per case of 1 doz. Quarts ....Rs. 50
Per case of 2 doz. Pints .... „ 54
Fresh Consignments of the above to hand.

APPLY TO
CROFT, MODY & Co.,
19, Bank Street, Bombay,
SOLE AGENTS FOR INDIA.
RETAIL AGENTS:—
DENISON & CO.,
33, Hummum Street, Bombay.

SWIFT AND FARROW,

PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS, &c.
ESTATE AND FINANCIAL AGENTS.
RENTS AND DEBTS COLLECTED.
PROPERTIES BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COMMISSION,
No. 8, BELL LANE, FORT, BOMBAY.

NOW READY.

MACLEAN'S GUIDE TO BOMBAY AND BOMBAY DIRECTORY FOR 1894.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED
At the "BOMBAY GAZETTE" OFFICE.
PRICE—Rs. 5; with Postage, Rs. 5-4.

THE GUIDE AND DIRECTORY for the year 1894 contains much new and valuable information brought down to date, and gives the history of the remarkable progress made by the City in recent years.

While recording the advance that has been made in the commerce and manufacturing industry of Bombay the GUIDE gives a comprehensive account of the numerous charitable institutions of the different communities, and accurate and detailed descriptions of many public buildings which have been completed during the year.

THE
BOMBAY DIRECTORY

Has been enlarged, verified, and carefully revised up to the day of going to Press. Valuable information has been added, and special care has been taken that the local information shall meet the wants of commercial men and the general public.

Bombay Gazette Offices,
Albert Buildings, Esplanade, Fort.

A BOON TO MEN

Who suffer from NERVOUS DEBILITY, Loss of VIGOUR, EXHAUSTED VITALITY, KIDNEY DISEASES, &c. A Treatise explaining the renowned MARSTON treatment by local absorption, the only positive cure without Stomach Medicines, will be sent in plain wrapper post free upon application. The MARSTON REMEDY Co., [illegible], High Holborn, LONDON.

PAINS IN THE BACK, GRAVEL, LUMBAGO, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, DISEASES OF THE KIDNEYS, AND BLADDER, STRICTURE, &c.

DR. DE ROOS' COMPOUND RENAL PILLS

Are a safe and speedy Remedy for the above dangerous complaints, Discharges and Diseases of the Urinary Organ, generally, which too frequently harass the sufferer over the best years of life, and end only in an agonising death. For weakness across the loins, sandy or other deposit in the water, and in all cases of renal or urinary disturbance, they are, indeed, unrivalled. They correct acidity of the stomach, and promote the functions of the kidneys, thereby preventing stone in the bladder, &c. Many complaints, long supposed to be nervous, often arise solely from contamination of the blood with certain impurities which should have been carried off by the kidneys. Thousands of testimonials from grateful Patients attest their marvellous efficacy. In packages, 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d.

DR. DE ROOS' PILULÆ VITÆ, OR VEGETABLE LIFE PILLS.

The most wonderful Pills in the world for Indigestion, Billiousness, and all Disorders of the Liver, Stomach and Bowels. Their action is mild yet effectual; they do not gripe or purge, and for habitual costiveness, loss of appetite, disturbed sleep, harassing dreams, wind, indigestion, sick headache, furred tongue, unpleasant taste in the mouth on rising in the morning, sallowness, scurvy, pimples, blotches, boils, &c., they are of unexampled efficacy; and being prepared solely from the vegetable kingdom, may be taken by the most delicate of *either sex*, equally with the robust, merely regulating the dose according to the printed directions accompanying each box.

Those who are subject to occasional attacks of Biliousness instead of resorting to the old-fashioned blue pill and nauseous black draught, will do well to keep a box of these Pills by them and never leave home without them: an attack may thus be nipped in the bud by taking a dose or two, which, if allowed to run its course for a few days, would probably almost completely prostrate its unhappy victim. Sold in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d.

DR. DE ROOS' WORLD-FAMED GUTTÆ VITÆ, OR LIFE DROPS.

Great European Remedy for Nervous and Functional Debility, Spermatorrhœa, &c.

This remarkable rejuvenating essence strengthens the vitality of the whole system, gives energy to the muscles, and speedily restores the impaired powers of life, imparting strength and manly vigour to the most debilitated and worn-out constitution. Those who suffer from Premature Decay, or deficiency of the Vital Forces owing to long residence in India, or any other cause, will find this medicine just what they require. Equally adapted for the studious and sedentary; the aged and infirm; the nervous and debilitated; as also for delicate females and weakly children. All sufferers from loss of appetite, nervous headache, lassitude, and despondency—too often accompanied with suicidal thoughts—should make immediate and fair unprejudiced trial of this wonderful medicine, which is daily effecting the most remarkable cures in patients who had been given up by the Faculty. In all cases of nervous and functional debility (arising from whatever cause), it is truly unrivalled. To married persons especially, this preparation will prove invaluable, giving strength and vigour in place of lassitude and incapacity.—Price 11s., or four times that quantity, 33s. per bottle.

Dr. De Roos' Medicines are sold by all the Principal Chemists and Merchants in India. Purchasers are particularly requested to see that every package bears the British Government Stamp, with the words, "WALTER DE ROOS, LONDON," impressed thereon in white letters on a red ground, and refuse worthless imitations frequently put forward by uncrupulous vendors for the sale of extra profit.

WHOLESALE AGENTS FOR INDIA,

TREACHER & COMPANY, LD.,

BOMBAY, BYCULLA, AND POONA.

N.B.—The Trade and Native Dealers supplied under Special Discount.

Debilitated and nervous young men should read the "Medical Adviser," by Dr. De Roos, on the secret uses of nervous debility, impotency, depression of spirits, and confirmed melancholy. Sent post free on receipt of a Postal Order for one Shilling by Mr. LAWES, Medical Publisher, 14, Hand-court, Holborn, London, W.C.

INSURANCES.

LONDON AND LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

(ESTABLISHED 1862.)

CAPITAL FULLY SUBSCRIBED	£2,127,500
RESERVE FUNDS	£ 676,355.
NET INCOME FOR 1892	£ 927,584.

THE above named influential British Fire Office is open to grant INSURANCES on Mills and all other classes of Risks at LOWEST CURRENT RATES.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.
Claims Paid during the last Ten Years Amount to ....£3,591,798.
BOMBAY BRANCH OFFICE:—
57, ESPLANADE ROAD
(Oriental Bank Buildings)

W. R. RAE,
Resident Secretary.

AGENTS WANTED, in Up-country Stations. Liberal Terms of Commission.

THE DEMAND FOR STANDARD POLICIES.

EVERY YEAR since 1865, the preference shown for STANDARD POLICIES has been very marked; the NEW BUSINESS having exceeded £1,000,000, sums assured, PER ANNUM—a result maintained uninterruptedly for so long a period by NO OTHER BRITISH OFFICE. The BUSINESS of 1892 was the largest in the History of the Company.

PREMIUMS MODERATE; CONDITIONS LIBERAL.
EVERY INFORMATION
In connection with LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS can be obtained on application to
DOUGLAS STEWART,
Acting Secretary, Bombay Branch.

ORIENTAL GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY

HEAD OFFICE:
ALBERT BUILDING, BOMBAY.

FUNDS Exceed SEVENTY LAKHS.
CLAIMS PAID FOR OVER
THIRTY-THREE LAKHS.

The Company was Founded in 1874, and from that year until now its record has been one of unbroken and unsurpassed progress.

ECONOMY,
MODERATE PREMIUMS,
UNQUESTIONABLE SECURITY,
PROMPT SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS,
Are but a few of the Special Advantages the ORIENTAL offers to Intending Assurers.

Annuities Granted on Liberal Terms.
Family Pension Branch open to all Classes.

Funds in Government Paper remaining in India thus avoiding any Loss to the Assured by Exchange

The working expenses of this Company are the LOWEST of any Company of the SAME age.

For Forms and Particulars for effecting an Assurance, apply to:—

D. McLAUCHLAN SLATER, F. I. A.,
Manager and Actuary.

INSURANCES.

FIRE INSURANCE.

		Exclusive Reserve Fund.
The NORTHERN ASSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	£	3,000,000
The GENERAL INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL, inclg. RESERVE FUND.,	„	3,000,000
The TRANSATLANTIC FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	M	6,000,000
The NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	„	7,500,000
The HAMBURG-BREMEN FIRE INSURANCE Co.. CAPITAL	„	6,000,000
The FIRE INSURANCE Co., of 1877, CAPITAL	„	2,600,000
The BALOISE FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	Frs	10,000,[illegible]
The BATAVIA FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	Fl	3,000,000
The SAMARANG FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	„	2,000,000
The FIRE INSURANCE Co., "INSULINDE," CAPITAL	„	1,000,000

MARINE INSURANCE.

The GENERAL MARINE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL, inclg. RESERVE FUND	£	3,000,000
The NEW SWISS-LLOYD TRANSPORT INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL.	Frs	4,000,000
The BATAVIA MARINE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	Fl	3,000,000
The SAMARANG MARINE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL	„	2,000,000
The NETHERLANDS-INDIA SEA & FIRE INSURANCE Co., CAPITAL.	„	2,250,000
The BAVARIAN LLOYD MARINE INSURANCE Co., Ld., CAPITAL	M	4,000,000

The FIRE and MARINE INSURANCE in the above Companies apply to the UNDERSIGNED, who can offer all FACILITIES and most FAVOURABLE TERMS. Rates and other particulars can be obtained on application.

VOLKART BROTHERS,
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ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

BOMBAY AGENCY.
CAPITAL......... £3,000,000

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Funds Invested in the best and Safest Securiteis amount to £8,003,265

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Policies covering Risk on Merchandise, Buildings, Spinning Mills, Cotton and Jute Presses, Shops, Bungalows, Household Furniture, Hotels and Clubs, both in Bombay and in the Mofussil, granted on MOST FAVOURABLE TERMS.

Coals on the Bunders and Kerosine Oil also covered

Fire Premium	1875	£	742,538
„ „	1885	„	966,107
„ „	1887	„	968,043
„ „	1892	„	2,033,053

LIFE BRANCH.
NATIVE LIVES ASSURED AT EUROPEAN RATES,
LARGE REDUCTION IN RATES.

Policies granted by the Undersigned without reference to Head Office on approved Lives. Military Lives in Civil Employ have extra Premium returned.

Endowment Assurances payable at Fixed periods, on Adults and Children on very favourable terms.

Last Reversionary Bonus 7½ per cent.

The next Distribution of Profits will take place after close of the year 1894.

Reduction to European Rates when Assured leave either Alexandria or Port Said.

Accumulated Life and Annuity Fund now amount to .... £ 4,730,358
Total Accumulated Funds................ „ 8,003,265

GROWTH of FUNDS—

1882	£ 4,812,054
1887	„ 5,763,091
1892	„ 8,003,265
Increase of Funds in 10 years	£3,161,211

THOMAS H. MOORE & Co.,
Agents, Royal Insurance Co., Bomba .

THE "ST. JAMES'S BUDGET," A WEEKLY EDITION OF THE "ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE."

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BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Review of Troops on the Parade Ground, 8 a.m.
The Opium Commission, Town Hall, 11 a.m.
High Schools' Athletic Association, 3-30 p.m.
Sassoon Mechanics' Institute, The Hon. Mr. Oxenham's lecture on "The Earth and her Sister Planets," 5-30 p.m.
Bombay Volunteer Rifle Association, Coorla.
Bombay Art Exhibition, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Harmston's Circus, opening night, 9 p.m.
Stanley Opera Company, Gaiety Theatre, 9 p.m.
Grand Anatomical Museum, Boree Bunder.

Fair.—[illegible] annual fair held in the Kagah Durgah will commence from to-morrow, at Tendal Street, and will continue for four days.

Saint Thomas' Cathedral.—The Lord Bishop of Bombay will hold a Confirmation in the Cathedral this evening (Thursday) at 6 o'clock.

Insolvency Court.—There was no sitting of the Insolvency Court yesterday, Mr. Justice Bayley having sat with the Chief Justice on the Appellate side of the Court.

Temperance Meeting.—There will be a Temperance Meeting at the Y. M. C. A., Byculla branch, to-night, at 8 p.m., which will be addressed by various gentlemen, including Mr. H. J. Wilson, M. P. All are cordially invited to attend.

Scottish Orphanage Concert.—The date of this concert has been changed. It will now be held in *the Town Hall, on the evening of March 7th, instead of March 1st, as originally proposed. The programme has not yet been completely arranged, but, we believe, itwill be fully up to the high standard of its predecessors.*

A Missing Son.—Damji Hemraj, residing in Samuel Street, has made a report to the police that his son, Khara, aged ten years, and wearing a gold ring valued at Rs. 4, left home on Tuesday morning to go to school at Doongree Street, and has not since returned. From inquiries made it appears that the boy did not go to the school.

Sunkersett Charitable Dispensary.—The total number of patients treated in this dispensary during the last month was 1,633 of which 392 were new admissions, consisting of 186 males, 102 females, and 104 children. The average daily attendance was 52·69. The total number of children vaccinated at the dispensary during the month was 120.

Band at the Royal Bombay Yacht Club.—The Band of the B. V. Rifles will play the following programme this evening at 5-30 p.m.:—

March	Musica	Eilenberg.
Overture	Pique Dame	Suppe.
Valse	Venus Reigin	Gung'l.
Pavani	Conti	Vasseur.
Selection	Lucrezia Borgia	Donizettt.
Music Making	Gypsius Characterpiece	Eilenberg.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

The Alexandra Native Girls' English Institution.—Assisted by two Deputy Educational Inspectors, Mr. E. Giles, the Educational Inspector, C.D., examined the pupils of the Alexandra Native Girls' English Institution. Mr. Giles, in his report, says: The school is, in my opinion, in a very efficient condition, and is evidently under careful and judicious supervision. I was generally much pleased with the pupil, both as regards their pleasant manners and orderly behaviour. The drill and singing were excellent.

Raid on a Den of Gamblers.—At the Mazagon Police Court, yesterday, Constable Robinson placed a Mahomedan woman, named Bani Jan, and nine others before Mr. P. H. Dustoor, Fourth Presidency Magistrate, the first accused being charged with keeping a common gaming house at Falkland Road, and the rest with gaming therein with cards, dice, and money. On certain information received Constable Robinson, in company with a couple of policemen, proceeded to the house on Tuesday evening, and having burst the door open, arrested the accused in the act of gambling. The Magistrate convicted all the accused, and sentenced No. 1 to pay a fine of Rs. 20 and the rest Rs. 8 each.

Fatal Accident to a Sawyer.—Mr. Allan F. Turner held an inquest yesterday, at the J. J. Hospital, regarding the death of Rawji Sukraji, a sawyer, aged twenty-five years, residing at Bapty Road, Cammatipoora. At 9 o'clock, on Tuesday morning, the deceased, in company with three other men, commenced sawying a piece of timber at Chowpatty, and by 3 p.m. were turning another piece for the purpose of marking it, when the deceased slipped and the timber fell on him, causing two wounds on the head. He was picked up unconscious, placed in a gharry, and taken to the J. J. Hospital, where he died, at 6-20 p.m., on the same day. A verdict of death from a fracture of the base of the skull, the result of a piece of timber accidently falling on him, was returned by the jury

Robbing a Child.—At the instance of Inspector Butfoy, one Abdool Rahiman Babaji, a noted character, residing at Mazagon, was yesterday placed before Mr. P. H. Dustur, Forth Presidency Magistrate, at the Mazagon Police Court, on a charge of committing theft of a silver anklet, of the value of Rs. 2-8, from the person of a child belonging to a woman named Tie, residing at Chowpatty. At 3-30 p.m., on Monday, the complainant was standing near the door of the Albert Museum, in the Victoria Gardens, with the child in her arms waiting for a friend, when the accused came from behind and removed the anklet from the foot of the child, and was making off with it, but before the accused had gone a few paces, the child commenced crying, which attraced the attention of the mother, who, on noticing the ornament missing, raised an alarm of "thief! thief!" and the man was immediately and taken into custody. The accused, who is an old offender, was sentenced to undergo three months' hard labour.

Arrival of the Dewan of Rutlam.—Khan Bahadur Cursetjee Rustomjee Thanawala, Dewan of Rutlam, arrived yesterday morning on a short visit to Bombay, and was met at the Victoria Terminus by a few personal friends and acquaintances. After the demise of H. H. the Raja of Rutlam, about a year ago, he was appointed Dewan of the State, with full executive powers, and, in reviewing his administration, the Political Officer, said: "The State is in a prosperous condition with the people contented. It is intended to make as few changes as possible in the administration, which has worked so smoothly and satisfactorily heretofore. Khan Bahadur Cursetjee Rustomjee is a man of high reputation and wide political experience, having filled important posts in the service of the Bombay Government and the Baroda State, and has hitherto done his work at Rutlam satisfactorily." Before he left Rutlam, Mr. Cursetjee was examined at Indore before the Opium Commission, where the statement he put in as his evidence-in-chief was considered to be "specially important," as it related to Native States, and particularly to the States in Central India. He is of opinion that the proposed prohibition would involve the Native States in political and financial difficulties of a serious nature.

Infringement of an Abkari Act.—Before Mr. We Webb, Third Presidency Magistrate, at the Esplanad. Police Court, yesterday Mr. Rustum Pestonji Jehangir Chief Inspector, Opium Department, charged Kushnu Keloo and Ismael Jan with possessing three seers and seven and a-half tolas of ganja, worth Rs. 30, in contravention of the Abkari Act. In consequence of certain information received, Mr. Rustom, with some sepoys of his department, went over to a vegetable godown, owned by the second accused, who is a dealer in vegetables, &c. The accused were not there. The Chief Inspector and his men waited for some time, and both the accused came up. They were followed by a coolie, who carried a basket on his head. The second accused opened the godown, and admitted the first accused and the cooly. Mr. Rustom saw that in the basket the quantity of ganja was kept in a tin box concealed underneath half-a-dozen gunny bags. The drug was taken out from the box in the presence of a Puch. The prosecution did not press the charge against the first accused, and his worship discharged him. The second accused, in his defence, said that the case was a got up one, and that his neighbour being his business rival, got him into trouble. His worship in disposing of the case declined to believe that an experienced officer would step into the witness-box and perjure himself. The evidence for the prosecution conclusively proved the case and the second accused was fined Rs. 50.

DIVINE SERVICE.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.
(Afghan Memorial Church, Colaba.)
Thursday, February 15.

6 p.m.—Evensong (Choral), Sermon by the Ven. the Archdeacon of Bombay. Hymn 96, and Soldier's Litany.

To preserve the complexion against wind, heat, irritating dust, &c., against wounds, burns, abrasions, the best application is Toilet "Lanoline."—From all Chemists and Druggists in Asbet.

MUNICIPAL STANDING COMMITTEE.

The weekly meeting of the Committee was held yesterday, when Dr. Cowasjee Hormasjee presided, and the other members present were:—the Hon. Mr. Oxenham, Messrs. E. B. Carroll, Grattan Geary, G. W. Roughton, the Hon. Mr. Javerilal Umiashunker Yajnik, Dr. A. G. Viegas, Dr. Bhalchandra Krishna, Messrs K. M. Shroff, and Harkissondas Narotumdas.

TENDERS ACCEPTED.

The Committee resolved to record the acceptance by the Municipal Commissioner of the following tenders, as reported by him to the Committee:—From Lakshman Balkrishna, the lowest of eight tenders received, for the work of fencing a portion of the ground round the Foras Road Market at a cost of Rs. 649-9-8 against the estimated cost of the work, viz., Rs. 942-9-9, exclusive of 10 per cent. contingencies. From Rahim Ibrahim Jamalani for the supply of wood at the Haines Road burial and burning ground for cremation purposes at Rs. 5 per candy of 28 maunds. From Messrs, Richardson and Cruddas, the lowest of three tenders, for the supply of eleven hand-rollers at a cost of Rs. 748 against Rs. 825, sanctioned by the Corporation. From Messrs. Walsh, Lovett and Co., the lowest of five tenders, for the supply of five sweeping and two scraping machines at a cost of Rs. 4,595 against Rs. 6,050 sanctioned by the Corporation.

TANDER SANCTIONED.

The Committee accorded sanction to the Commissioner's acceptance of the tender of Messrs. John Fleming and Co. for the supply of one six-ton steam road-roller at a cost of Rs. 6,000; and of the tender of Hassanali Abdulali for the supply of stationery and drawing materials during 1894-95.

FANCY FAIR ON THE OVAL.

The Committee accorded sanction to a componnded sum of rupees five being charged for water supplied to the Fancy Fair held on the Oval.

CASKS OF CEMENT.

The Committee accorded sanction to the purchase from *Messrs.* Fleming and Co. 1,500 casks of cement—at Rs. 7-10-0 per cask, without inviting tenders.

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AND LANDS.

The Committee considered the following resolution of the Corporation, dated 5th inst.:—"That the President be requested to inform Govenment, in reply to letter No. 257, General Department, dated 23rd Jan., 1894, from Mr. Acting Chief Secretary Vidal, that the Corporation concur in the appointment of Mr. F. W. Stevens, F.R.I.B.A., A.M.I.C.E., M.S.A., C.I.E., as the person appointed to fix the rateable value of the buildings and lands in the city of Bombay vesting in Her Majesty, and consent to pay (1) a moiety of the cost of remuneration to be paid to Mr. Stevens, such moiety not to exceed in any case Rs. 2,500, and (2) half the charges for printing the award. That the Corporation will be prepared to sanction the necessary outlay on the recommendation of the Standing Committee."

The Committee recommended the amount being sanctioned one of unappropriated cash balances.

CHARGES IMPOSED ON THE CORPORATION.

A letter was read from the Commissioner, reporting that the total charges imposed on the Corporation owing to the new offices not being completed within the contract time amounted to Rs. 9,978-10-9, of which Rs. 2,855 were on account of rent of old building, and Rs. 7,123 on account of establisment charges.

The Commissioner stated that the contractors could not be made responsible for the charges incurred.

The Committee orderd the papers to be printed and circulated.

SUIT FOR RECOVERY OF WHEEL TAX.

The Committee accorded sanction to a suit being filed in the Small Causes Court against Mr. Dyer, once a light-house keeper on the Prongs, for the recovery of Rs 11-8-0 due on account of wheel tax, &c.

A COMPLAINT FORM CAMATEEPOORA.

The Committee considered the report of the Sub-Committee appointed to enquire into the complaint of Mr. Narsingrao Syboo and other inhabitants of Camateepoora.

On the motion of Mr. Grattan Geary, seconded by Mr. Roughton, it was resolved that the report be approved and adopted, and that it be forwarded to the Corporation as the report of the Committee.

THE ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTION IN THE VICTORIA GARDENS.

The next matter was a letter, dated 13th instant, from the Chairman of the Committee appointed by the Corporation to report on the question of the proposed improvement of the zoological collection in the Victoria Gardens, stating that the Zoological Society of Calcutta consent to lend the services of their Superintendent to the Committee during the period of a fortnight on condition that his salary, whilst so absent from Calcutta, his travelling allowances, &c., are paid by the Bombay Municipality; asking, therefore, that the Standing Committee will recommend the Corporation to sanction the grant of Rs. 500 for the cost of the proposed arrangement.

Mr. Geary asked if a fortnight would be sufficient to organise new arrangements, and remarked that it might be as well to draw attention to the point. He was told that a cage for the lions was being erected in the midst of the deer park, and that the deer would be frightened out of their wits at the sight of their proposed neighbours. (A laugh.)

After some discussion, it was resolved that the letter be forwarded to the Corporation with a recommendation that sanction be given to the grant of Rs. 500, and that the Corporation be asked to consider this recommendation as urgent business at their meeting on the 19th inst.

After transacting other business the Committee adjourned.

ARRIVAL OF H. M. S. REDBREAST.

Her Majesty's steamer Redbreast, under the command of Captain R. H. J. Stewart, arrived in harbour yesterday afternoon from Trincomalee, which port she left on the 8th instant. The Redbreast left Bombay on the 11th May last, and since then had visited the Seychelles Island, Farquhar Island, Rodrigues Island, Maur itius, Colombo, Trincomalee, and Calcutta, where she remained for about a month, and then left for Negapatam, afterwads proceeding to Trincomalee, leaving the latter port on the 8th inst. for Bombay. She has come here to join the Flagship Boadicea. The vessel's future movements are unknown.

THE BREACH CANDY SWIMMING BATH.

The annual general meeting of subscribers to the Bath was held at the Bath premises yesterday morning, the Hon. Mr. Justice Parsons presiding. The accounts and the minutes of proceedings of the last meeting were adopted, confirmed and passed.

The secretary, Mr. C. James, read the annual report, from which it appeared that the financial position of the Bath during the past year was as follows:—The year commenced with a balance of Rs. 448-9-5. The total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 1,429-10-0, including the subscriptions from the clubs, monthly subscribers, sale proceeds of tickets, etc., as against Rs. 1,473-1-0 in the preceding year, showing a decrease of Rs. 43-7-0. The average collection had been Rs. 119 per month as against Rs. 122 in the preceding year. The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 1,706-11-4, or Rs. 277-1-4 in excess of the total receipts exclusive of the balance in hand at the beginning of the year, which was Rs. 448-9-5. An opening balance of Rs. 171-8-1 only now remained. The excess was chiefly due to heavy repairs, costing Rs. 540-15-3, done to the Bath, and also to the payment of two instalments of Rs. 40 each towards the repayment of loans entered into in 1885. The bath premises are now in very fair order. It was regretted that the attendance at the Bath is gradually falling off. There are no liabilities saving Rs. 320. During the year the Bath premises were for the first time insured against fire for a sum of Rs. 5,000.

It was resolved that the report be circulated for the benefit of the members who were not present.

The meeting considered whether it was advisable to reclaim a portion of the ground between the present road to the baths and the Mahaluxmi Fort.

The proposal was passed, and a sum of money was granted for the construction of a wall. The reason for this was that the Volunteer Artillery, when in camp, have not enough room for their wants; and it was considered a good financial undertaking to sanction the extension.

It was proposed by Mr. R. L. Trevithick, seconded by Mr. L. Penny, and unanimously carried, that a vote of thanks be passed to the secretary, Mr. James, for the interest he takes in the affairs of the Bath; and a wish was expressed that he would continue to occupy the post.

Mr. Justice Parsons tendered his resignation as president, as he was about to go home on furlough.

The proceedings terminated with the usual compliment to the chairman.

The question of establishing a Medical School in connection with the Rangoon College, is under consideration, and Surgeon-General Rice is discussing the subject with the Local Government.

BARODA SETTLEMENT REPORT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—An anonymous correspondent in your issue of the 6th inst. stands up for the Settlement Department of Baroda. When actual instances of hardship and oppression are quoted and commented upon day by days in the public press for months past, when long lists of villages confiscated and property resumed unjustly are being published in newepapers, when people under their own signatures make statements which show that the *zoolum* of the department is unbearable, and when a constitutional association of Vatandars pass resolutions in open day light, and when after the presentation of the petition against the Vatan rules by the members present in Baroda at the time of their second meeting, supplementary petitions by the members of the Mandal have poured in from the remotest corner of the Rajya heading five hundred signatures of none but Vatandars, what wonder then is there that a nameless writer, evidently a friend of the Settlement Department, who fears that the exposures might bring him or his friends into trouble for their mischivous policy, has proved a sufficient condemnation of his own self and the department he is so anxious to defend. His mysterious ways like his mysterioues name, excites well-founded suspicion that he is catching at a straw. He threatens those that are immediate parties to the agitation. But he should know that representation is the sovereign remedy for every evil. The officials at Baroda appear to have adopted the singular course of endevouring to repress the symptoms instead of to cure the disease. They move heaven and earth to prevent the progress of the spirit of petitioning and by specious pretences they want to soothe us into the security of idiots.

V. S. Desai.

DOGS IN THE OVAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—I should like through the medium of your columns to call the attention of the police to the intolerable nuisance and very serious danger to riders in the Oval which is caused by a family of red pie dogs who seem to have taken up their permanent abode there. These brutes, always four, and sometimes six, in number, who appear to belong to no one, are invariably to be found in the morning either in the Ride itself or in the central enclosure. I was myself very nearly brought to grief this morning over the rails by my horse bolting when pursued by this yelping pack of curs, who rush out upon the heels of almost every horse cantering past. As I have heard many similar complaints from equestrians, I shall, I am sure, be only giving expression to a very general wish in requesting the police to take steps to remove or destroy this very great annoyance to one's

MORNING RIDE.

Bombay, Feb. 14.

BOMBAY HIGH SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION.

We have been requested to announce that the Athletic Meeting of the High Schools Association will be held under the immediate patronage of H. E. Lord Harris, who with Lady Harris will grace the meeting with his presence on Friday evening. The entries obtained are, for a first meeting, very large, numbering as they do 365. These are divided between sixteen schools, who send 209 boys to compete. The Fort High School sends 24 boys and 35 entries; Sir Jamsetjee School, 22 boys and 30 entries; Byramjee Jijibhai School, 19 boys and 23 entries; St. Mary's College, 18 boys and 36 entries; Chandanwady High School, 17 boys and 19 entries; Cathedral High School, 16 boys and 36 entries; Proprietary High School, 16 boys and 30 entries; New High School, 16 boys and 36 entries; Elphinstone High School, 13 boys and 28 entries; St. Peter's School, 12 boys and 25 entries; Free General Assembly's Institute, 11 boys and 15 entries; Mahim Orphanage, 7 boys and 16 entries; St. Xavier's School 6 boys and 16 entries; John Connon School, 5 boys and 8 entries; Byculla Scottish School, 5 boys and 11 entries; and Robert Money School, 2 boys and 6 entries. Of these sixteen schools fourteen are the same that entered for the Cricket Competition last season. The two new comers are the Byramjee Jijibhai School and Robert Money School. The three remaining schools which have not yet competed are the Anglo-Portuguese, Anjuman-i-Islam and the Parsee Orphanage.

The following is the full programme of the day's sports:—3-30—Throwing the Cricket Ball; 24 entries. 3-45—Hurdle Race for boys under 16; 17 entries, 3 heats. 3-55—100 yards for boys under 14; 24 entries, 3 heats. 4—Hurdle Race, open; 21 entries, 4 heats. 4-15—High Jump for boys under 16; 14 entries. 5-55—Hurdle Race, open; final heat. 4-40—Hurdle Race, for boys under 16; final heat. 4-45—100 yards for boys under 14; final heat. 4-50—High Jump, open; 16 entries. 5-10—Quarter Mile Race, for boys under 16, 25 entries. 5-15—Pole Jump, open; 12 entries. 5-35—One Mile Race, open; 20 entries.

By kind permission of Major Luard and Officers the Band of the 1st Battn. B. B. and C. I. Railway V. R. Corps will perform the following programme, of music at the sports this afternoon:—

Quick March	Friendship	W. J. Davies.
Fantasia	Paul Jones	J. A. Kappey.
Valse	Akademische Burger	E. Strauss.
Selection	Scotch Medley	Cavallini.
Polka	See me Dance	E. Solomon.
Galop	The Tourists	Fredhe.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

GAIETY THEATRE.

There will be a Naval demonstration at the "Gaiety," this evening, when the sensational drama in 5 acts, entitled "Harbour Lights" will be produced under the patronage and in the presence of H. E. the Rear Admiral W R. Kennedy and Officers of H. M.'s Fleet.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The following are the twenty best scores made in matches one and two:—

Match I.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	Hdcp. added.	Ttl.
Vol E Baird, Bo Vol Rifles	30	31	4	65
Corpl G F Lund, Bo Vol Rifles	30	33	0	63
Lieut D J Sharp, Bo Vol Rifles	31	30	2	63
Sergt J A McKinnon, Bo Vol Rifles	30	29	2	61
Cr-Sergt H Black, Bo Vol Rifles	27	32	0	59
Vol J M Mason, Bo Vol Rifles	22	33	4	59
Lieut T M English, Bo Vol Rifles	25	33	0	58
Sergt A R Sharp, Bo Vol Rifles	28	26	4	58
Corpl T Thurby, Bo Vol Rifles	28	26	4	58
Lieut F W English, Bo Vol Rifles	28	29	0	57
Lce-Corpl M T Mullen, Bo Vol Rifles	21	31	4	56
Corpl L Valladares, Bo Vol Rifles	27	25	4	56
Vol O M P Clyne, Bo Vol Rifles	27	28	0	55
Qr-Mr-Sergt W Stephens, B V Rifles	31	24	0	55
Vol N W Cosserat, Bo Vol Rifles	23	28	4	55
Gunner T Lane, Bo Vol Arty	24	27	4	55
Ar-Sergt W Boylette, Bo Vol Rifles	27	24	4	55
Corpl F E Otto, Bo Vol Rifles	23	29	2	54
Cr-Sergt A D Litic, Bo Vol Rifles	24	26	4	54
Sergt W G Nicoll, Bo Vol Rifles	27	25	4	51

Match II.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	Hdcp. added.	Ttl.
Corpl P J Boylette, Bo Vol Rifles	29	32	4	65
Cr-Sergt H Black, Bo Vol Rifles	30	32	0	62
Cr-Sergt E W Thomas, Bo Vol Rifles	35	27	0	62
Gunner T Lane, Bo Vol Arty	29	27	4	60
Corpl R W Chitts, Bo Vol Rifles	26	29	4	59
Vol H Row, Bo Vol Rifles	32	23	4	59
Lieut F W English, Bo Vol Rifles	33	25	0	58
Cr-Sergt J E Keess, Bo Vol Rifles	29	24	4	57
Corpl G F Lund, Bo Vol Rifles	30	26	0	56
Lieut D J Sharp, Bo Vol Rifles	28	26	2	56
Sergt J W Gordon, Bo Vol Rifles	29	23	4	56
Lieut T M English, Bo Vol Rifles	31	24	0	55
Vol J M Mason, Bo Vol Rifles	30	21	4	55
Qr-Mr-Sergt W Stephens, B V Rifles	24	28	0	52
Cr-Sergt E Sands, Bo Vol Rifles	28	22	2	52
Ar-Sergt W Boylette, Bo Vol Rifles	26	22	4	52
Vol G V Evans, Bo Vol Rifles	25	22	4	51
Vol J Cooper, Bo Vol Rifles	28	19	4	51
Corpl T Thurby, Bo Vol Rifles	33	14	4	51
Sergt J A McKinnon, Bo Vol Rifles	25	23	2	50

On the morning of the 18th instant a private of the Hongkong Regiment fired four shots from a revolver at Havildar Noor Mahomed, a sergeant of the same regiment, while on parade. Notwithstanding the fact that there were only a few yards between the two men, none of the shots proved immediately fatal. The first shot seems to have grazed the sergeant's head, the next one entering his body on the right side, the other two inflicting comparatively little injury. It was at first supposed that the first shot would prove fatal, but it is now believed that the Sergeant has some chance recovering. The affair seems to have been the result of an old grudge on the part of the private against the sergeant.

Official telegraphic despatches received at Shanghai from Kirin, says the *Overland China Mail*, state that the remnants of the insurgents decimated last winter by the troops of the Viceroy Li in the Jehol country and Ch'aoyang near Newchawng having fled to the Yaloo territory on the Corean borders, are again making themselves felt in that region, the local troops and the Corean authorities on the borders being too weak to crush them. A number of villages on the frontier have already been devastated.

HIGH COURT.—Appellate Side.

(Before the Hon. Mr. Justice Jardine and the Hon. Mr. Justice Ranade.)

THE SEDITIOUS PAMPHLET CASE AGAIN.

IMPERATRIX vs. WALLUBHDAS SUNDERJEE AND HARIVALABHDAS BHOYDAS.

The two accused appealed from a decision of Mr. Cooper, Chief Presidency Magistrate, who, on the 24th October last, convicted them of abetment of the offence of rioting, by having printed and published a poem alleged to be calculated to incite the natives of Bombay to riot, and sentenced them each to pay a fine of Rs. 201 or in default to suffer one month's simple imprisonment. The Hon. Mr. Lang, Advocate-General, instructed by the Public Prosecutor, appeared for the Crown; and Mr. K. D. Shroff appeared for the accused.

The two accused were charged together with Kanjee Dharamsey, the writer of the seditious pamphlet, who in addition to a similar fine, was sentenced to three months' simple imprisonment. The sentence passed on Kanjee had been reversed on appeal by the High Court. The appellants in this case relied on the decision in Kanjee's appeal, submitting that the magistrate had erred in his judgment, as the pamphlet they had published was nothing more than a historical record of the riots, and instead of being calculated to cause a revival of the disturbances, advocated the restoration of peace and order.

Their Lordships, on a consideration of the arguments of counsel, reversed the convictions and sentences, the fines, if paid, to be refunded to the accused.

ATTEMPTED MURDER OF A COUSIN'S WIFE.

IMPERATRIX vs. KUSA BIN SOMA.

Mr. W. H. Crowe, Sessions Judge of Poona, made a reference to the Court in this case, the jury having found the accused not guilty of an attempt to murder and voluntarily causing grievous hurt, with which verdict he entirely disagreed.

Mr. Crowe said the evidence against the accused consisted of confessions he had made before two magistrates, in which he admitted having struck his cousin's wife, Bayaji, on the head with a chopper. He retracted the confessions before the Sessions Judge; but the police patel, who had been examined, said that when he saw Bayaji soon after she had been struck, she stated that the accused was the person who had struck her. On the day following the attempted murder, the accused had handed a blood-stained chopper and dhotur to the police, but afterwards denied having done so. Bayaji had recovered sufficiently from her wounds to be examined as a witness, but in order to shield her character, she having been living with the accused, she said she was attacked while asleep. Mr. Crowe failed to find any reason discrediting the evidence, and felt satisfied that the accused had attempted to murder Bayaji, and he, therefore, declined to accept the verdict of the jury and referred the case for the orders of the High Court.

Mr. Justice Jardine, in delivering the decision of the Court, said that, after a careful consideration of the evidence, the Court convicted the accused of voluntarily causing grievous hurt, and sentenced him to seven years' rigorous imprisonment. Their Lordships noticed that several witnesses in the case were allowed to depose to admissions made by the prisoner at the time he gave up the chopper, such evidence appearing to be inadmissible under the Full Bench ruling in the case of the Queen-Empress vs. Nana, reported in the Indian Law Reports, vol. 14.

SMALL CAUSES COURT.

(Before Mr. Rustomji M. Patel, 2nd Judge.)

SUIT FOR RECOVERING ORNAMENTS.

SADOOLA HOOSEIN BUX vs. MEERZA MEER AHMED.

Mr. Dalvi appeared for the plaintiff, while the defendant was represented by Mr. Nusserwanji, pleader.

In this suit the plaintiff claimed to recover from the defendant certain gold and silver ornaments, or their value Rs. 180, being the ornaments placed on the person of his (plaintiff's) daughter-in-law on the occasion of her marriage with his son. The plaintiff complained that the defendant, who was the maternal uncle of the daughter-in-law, took her bedecked with those ornaments to a Mahomedan fair held in December, 1891, and refused to send her back, and also refused to hand over the ornaments, which he had promised to keep in safe custody. The present suit was in Trover, and the defendant was charged with the illegal conversion of the ornaments.

The defendant's pleader denied conversion, and also denied the plaintiff's title to sue, and denied the ornaments were the property of the plaintiff. The defendant further denied delivery of them, and also denied that they were in his possession, and submitted that the daughter-in-law, who is still a minor, was the rightful owner of those ornaments which were presented to her on her marriage, and that the marriage was still a subsisting one. Mr. Nusserwanji contended that the minor lived with her mother, who was the defendant's sister, and that the latter was the natural custodian of those ornaments according to the custom and usage of the natives. Lastly, the pleader denied any undertaking on the part of the defendant to keep the ornaments in safe custody and return them to the plaintiff when demanded.

His Honour, in disposing of the suit, remarked that the plaintiff had failed to establish his case as laid out in the statement of his plaint. The plaintiff had failed to prove possession of the ornaments by the defendant or to prove any undertaking by him to hold them for the use of the plaintiff. The plaintiff had also failed to establish any misappropriation by the defendant. The learned Judge was of opinion that it was not necessary to decide the question of the absolute ownership of the ornaments or to determine if they were originally handed over on the occasion of the marriage for a temporary purpose only, as was contended on behalf of the plaintiff. The Judge dismissed the suit with costs.

CALCUTTA GOLF CLUB.

The annual match for the Silver Bowl presented by the Ladies Golf Club took place on the Calcutta Maidan on Friday and Saturday when 90 members entered to play. This is the largest entry there has ever been for any golf match in Calcutta, and must be taken as a compliment to the donors of the prize. The tents of the Calcutta Light Horse form this year again an additional hazard, but three of the scratch players of the Golf Club surmounted all the difficulties of the two rounds, and Mr. A. F. Simson and Mr Mitchell-Innes tied for first place at 85, while Mr. Lamb came very near that with 86. Mr. Mitchell-Innes returned a score of 39 for the new round, which is the record of the course, being only equalled by Mr. J. F. Macnair's scores for the Kashmir Cup in 1887-1888 and 1891-92. In the absence of Lady Elliot, Mrs. Pugh kindly came to the golf pavilion with a number of the members of the Ladies Club and other lady friends to present the prize. The ground was very hard usual at this season and scoring somewhat easy for the generality of golfers, but the scratch players are to be congratulated in coming to the front as they did and the tie when played off, will no doubt be a very close and exciting match. The ladies were entertained by the Golf Club to witness the finish of the match and some enjoyed a game at bowls on the beautiful green in front of the pavilion. The following are the best scores handed in for the match:—

		Hcp.	
Mr. N. Mitchell-Innes	85	Scr.	85
Mr. A. F. Simson	85	Scr.	85
Mr. F H. E. Lamb	86	Scr.	86
Mr. R. D. Murray	91	3	88
Mr. H. Callaway	96	8	88
Mr. J. G. Ritchie	98	9	89
Mr. G. A. Ormiston	94	4	90
Lieut. L. T. B. Saunderson	96	6	90
Mr. J. G. Buchanan	94	3	91
Mr. T. Drimmie	95	3	92
Capt. J. M. Fleming	98	6	92
Mr. J. Davenport	108	16	92
Dr. A. S. Lethbridge	108	16	92
Mr. H. C. Dring	105	12	93
Mr. J. Adamson	94	Scr.	94
Mr. C. Little	94	Scr.	94
Mr. J. Florence	108	14	94
Mr. A. C. Matthews	108	14	94
Mr. A. C. S. Holmes	110	16	94
Mr. G. S. Hannah	100	4	94
Mr. H. F. Mackenzie	102	6	96
Mr. D. S. Murray	104	8	96
Mr. A. R. Becher	105	9	96
Mr. J. Mann	112	16	96
Mr. W. M. Yule	103	6	97
Dr. C. R. M. Green	109	12	97
Mr. W. D. Cowan	113	16	97
Capt. W. V. Eccles	101	3	98
Mr. A. J. Dent	112	14	98
Mr. C. A. Smith	108	9	99
Mr. C. B. Watkins	108	9	99
Mr. A. F. Bruce	113	14	99
Mr. L. G. Dunbar	100	Scr.	100
Mr. J. A. Cassels	108	8	100
Mr. W. E. G. C. Dickson	109	9	100

A silly rumour says the *Madras Mail* has been set on foot and has appeared in print in one of the local newspapers to the effect that Lord Wenlock contemplates resigning, and has sent his brother, Major the Hon'ble R. T Lawley, home to ascertain "whether or no it could be feasible to terminate, without peril or inconvenience, his present tenure of office in Madras." It is hardly necessary to say that there is not a word of truth in the rumour. We feel sure that everybody in the presidency hopes that Lord Wenlock will remain at his post until the very last day of his term of office.

Within the last month or two there have been three, if not four, outbreaks of a more or less serious nature, by the prisoners in the Central Jail, Rangoon. As the rioting was nipped in the bud, these little affairs were hushed up, and the public heard very little of them. The authorities, however, who contemplated the reduction of the European establishment of the jails in Burma, have, we hope, been convinced of the folly of such a proceeding.

THE DHURRUMTOLLA TRAGEDY.

The Coroner's inquiry into the circumstances of the death of Mrs. Peters, who was shot by her husband on Friday last, outside the Church of the Sacred Heart, in Dhurrumtolla Street, Calcutta, was resumed on Friday. Peter Caslello was the first witness examined. He said:—I knew the deceased, Mrs. Madeline Peters. I do not know her husband. On the 12th of last month Mrs. Peters asked me to go with her to the Thanna and lay a complaint against her husband. My wife and I accompanied Mrs. Peters to the Bow Bazar Thanna to lay charge against Peters, who had threatened to shoot her with a revolver. Mrs. Peters told me that her husband had told her that he would shoot her. Before I went with her to the Thanna I advised Mrs. Peters to make a complaint next morning to the Magistrate, but she would not listen to me. Mrs. Peters signed the charge which she laid against her husband at the Thanna.

The Inspector who took down the charge at the Thanna was here called to depose to Mrs. Peters's signature.

The foreman of the jury at this stage intimated that his associates desired to know from the witness whether Mrs. Peters had told him the reason why her husband had threatened to shoot her. The Coroner replied that that was quite irrelevant. The husband was not on his trial in this Court.

The evidence of several constables and police officers with regard to occurrences after the murder was next taken.

Mr. Lewis Keys was next called. He said:—The deceased was married to my step-brother a little over a year ago. The marriage was an unhappy one. Peters removed to my house about twenty-one days before this unfortunate occurrence. I saw him on the morning of the 2nd of February, an honr before this affair occurred. He said his prayers before he left the house. I was in the room when he did so. When leaving the house he told me he was going to Church, as there was a service for the blessing of candles. I asked him to have his tea before he went out. He refused to do so, and said that he would return and have his tea after he had been to service. I have never previously seen these revolvers. From the day he came to me he was in particularly low spirits. He used to complain bitterly against his mother-in-law. He said that she was forcing his wife to leave him, that she used to abuse him shamefully, and treat him with scant courtesy. I never visited Peters and his wife in their house. He told me she used to upbraid him whenever he appeared before her, and after her father's death she became most violent and more abusive, and used to taunt him by saying I am the tiger, you are the mouse. During the few days he spent with me after he left his wife, I do not believe he had a good night's rest. He was much troubled in mind. I was present at the search made by the police of his property. I was present when they found the cartridges produced here. Peters would seldom talk about his affairs. He never to my hearing threatened to shoot his wife. I did not know that he had a revolver or any cartridges I do not know what papers the police found in his boxes. My brother told me that his wife had refused to nurse the baby and had often threatened to live an immoral life.

The Coroner: We do not want to know what the living said. We want to know what the dead said. Did Mrs. Peters never say anything to you?

Witness: No, I never visited Mrs. Peters. My brother was on the staff. His wife did not want him to go to sea, and therefore he gave up his regular job on board a steamer, and did extra work here. When my brother separated from his wife and came to me, he told me that he could not stand his wife's conduct any longer. He was a temperate man. During the first twelve days of his stay with me he and his friends drank about four bottles of brandy. After that he took nothing to my knowledge. He was too ill to take liquor.

Babu Hem Chunder Dutt was next called. He said: I keep a gun shop in Chandney. I recognise the two revolvers shown me. Inspector Ellis brought the revolvers to me to extract the cartridges. There were five loaded cartrides in the smaller one, six empty cases in the longer one.

The Coroner next summed up. When he had concluded, a juror addressing him, said:—According to the evidence eight shots were fired from the six-chambered revolver. This is a grave discrepancy.

Coroner: Speak through your foreman. Do you wish to retire gentlemen?

The Juror: I do not think it is necessary to retire, I should only like the discrepancy cleared up.

Coroner: Speak through your foreman.

The juror here went up to speak to the foreman, and while he was telling him what he desired to be enlightened upon the Coroner addressing him said:—"Well what it is you want to ask? Tell me! This was done when the Coroner explained that he was satisfied that eight cartridges had not been discharged from the six chambers, He was not so devoid of sense. There were discrepancies in the evidence but it was not for that Court to deal with them. All that the jury had to decide was whether Mrs Peters was shot and whether she died from the effects of those shots. The jurors returned a unanimous verdict to the effect that Mrs. Peters died from the effects of revolver wounds inflicted on her by her husband.—

THE CHIN COUNTRY.

The latest reports from the Boungshe column, dated 7th instant, states:—The column left Naring on the 29th January and camped at Rawna six miles to the south. Interpreters were sent in advance to negotiate. On the 30th the column marched for Rowyna. After half an hour's march the flankers came upon the dead bodies of both intepreters, who had been murdered by the Rowyna people. As this gave affairs a serious aspecr, the kits and rations were sent back to Rawna with 50 rifles, while 100 rifles with four days rations continued the march on Rowyna. The main road was found blocked at Panjaieb. The troops therefore went along the fields. No resistance was met with and the village was occupied at 3 p.m. A few prisoners were made including the chief's son. A fine of 100 guns was imposed, and messengers were sent in to the jungle to inform the people that the fine must be paid next day. On the 31st instant guns were brought in and the chief of the village surrendered. On the 1st February a few of the ring-leaders houses were burnt, and the people were called upon to deliver up the muderers of the two interpreters. On the 2nd two parties, one under Lieutenant Cox and the other under a native officer, went out to search the jungles for Chins. Two Chin camps were found, and a number of guns, gonga knives, bows and arrows, and goats and othes property were captured, but the Chins had escaped. All stores of grain were destroyed. Fifty-four guns had been obtained up to date. On the 3rd Captain Rainey and Mr. Tuck, with a small party, visited Arengtong village, six miles off, which was found to have been deserted some days. On the road some armed Chins were met with, and a few shots were exchanged, two of the Chins being killed. On the 4th, as no more people came in, and no more guns were paid, and as the murderers were not given up, all the village property was confiscated. The situation being unchanged on the 6th, half of the east village was burnt. Rowyna consists of three villages. The column returned on the same date to Rowyna. On the 6th the column arrived at Kohrang via Naring, a long and wearying march, but no opposition was encountered. The column goes on to Aika and thence to Lotaw, to collect tribute due by those villages. This will complete the programme of the column. The detachment will then march to Gungaw and on to Mandalay to join their head-quarters there.

Lieutenant Cox had a narrow escape on the 2nd. Going into the village at dusk after hunting the Chins all day, he caught his foot in a string, and thinking it a trap of some kind he cut it. On examining the spot next day he found the string was connected with a huge beam, which was placed on a, pole slide on the hill above, so that had it been released it would have swept off everyone standing on the road below. The path here was only nine inches wide, and below it was a deep pit, filled with long sharp panjies. Luckily the thing missed fire, or Lieutenant Cox and some of his men must have been precipitated into this horrible panjied pit.

His Excellency the Viceroy has been pleased to accept the position of Patron of the Caledonian Society of Calcutta. The Society has only been in existence for a few months, and has already done much good.

A European passenger, homeward-bound by the Bombay mail-train on Wednesday last, met with a very unusual accident. While engaged in his morning ablutions, a sudden jerk of the train threw him with considerable violence against the porcelain wash-stand, which was shattered in pieces by the shock. Large jagged fragments penetrated his thighs, causing profuse hæmorrhage. On the arrival of the train at Patna, the wounded man was attended to by a native medical practitioner, who happened to be a passenger, and though he fainted twice from loss of blood, he was able to continue his journey as far as Allahabad. The mishap points to a serious defect in the fittings of the lavatories attached to the East Indian Railway carriages. So fragile a material as porcolain should clearly be provided with a strong metal guard.

Valuable Discovery for the Hair.—If your hair is turning grey or white or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it "will positively restore, in every case Grey or White hair," to its original colour without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemists for "The Mexican Hair Renewer," sold by Chemists and perfumers everywhere at 3s. 6d. a bottle.—Wholesale Depot, 33, Farringdon Road, London, England.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

The P and O Co's s s Gwalior, 1,648 tons Captain E T Denny, sailed yesterday for China &c with a general cargo.

The Bombay and Persia S N Co's s s Mobile, 930 tons, Captain W McAdam, cleared yesterday for Aden, Jedda, &c with a general cargo and 600 pilgrims as deck passengers.

The Asiatic S N Co's s s Nadir, 2,041 tons Captain P S Budd, arrived in harbour yesterday from Calcutta (31st January) via coast ports, with a general cargo and 20 deck passengers.

ARRIVALS.

Feb.	Vessel.	Commander.	From
14	H. M. S. Redbreast	Stewart	Trincomalee, Feb 8.
	Chelydra (s)	Gould	Batoum, Jan 24.
	Nadir (s)	Budd	Calcutta, Jan 31.

DEPARTURES.

Feb.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
14	Gwalior (s)	Denny	China, &c.
	Mobile (s)	McAdam	Jedda, &c.

The following vessels entered for loading yesterday:—
Steamer Ganges, for Aden, &c.
" Burdon, for Trieste and Venice.

CALCUTTA.

ARRIVALS.

Feb.			
9	Chelydra s	Cass	Hongkong, Jan 24.
	Maharani s	Wright	Rangoon, Feb 3.
	Algeria s	Craig	Liverpool, Jan 6.

DEPARTURES.

Feb. 9.—Steamers Kistna, Mahratta and Maharaja.

DAILY IMPORTS.—February 14.

From Glasgow.

Australia s—340, cases whisky, Dhunjeebhoy Cowasjee; 20 cases whisky, J A Kirkbride and Co; 50 cases whisky, Cutler Palmer and Co; 212 cases whisky, Jamsetjee Framjee; 100 cases whisky, D Dadabhoy; 95 cases ale and beer and 75 cases whisky Turner Morison and Co; 103 cases beer, A B L Cooper and Co; 96 cases portwine, W and A Graham and Co; 25 cases whisky, Eduljee Bezonjee; 35 cases whisky P C Shroff and Sons; 5 cases confectionery S Tybjee and Co; 5 cases confectionery, S Nuzeralli.

Clan Munroe s—2 cases whisky, Lidbetter and Co;

City of Edinburgh s—115 cases whisky, Eduljee Bezonjee.

Armenia s—20 cases whisky Morenas and Co.

City of Dundee s—5 cases confectionery S Tyebjee and Co; 10 cases confectionery, A G Hoosen.

From Liverpool.

Australia s—20 barrels stout and 50 cases whisky Dhunjeebhoy Cowasjee.

Methly Hall s—cases butter, Cowasje Dadabhoy; 17 cases soap D Ruttonsey; 110 cases candles, R A Hoosen; 24 cases oilmenstores, R Jooma.

From Dundee.

Baroda s—275 cases whisky, Dhunjeebhoy Cowasjee.

From London.

Oriental s—115 cases port and sherry wine 10 cases whisky 60 cakes beer Dhunjeebhoy Cowasjee; 257 cases ale sherry liqueur, &c, Treacher and Co; 25 cases whisky, C H B Forbes and Co; 10 cases benedictine. Eugene Meiffre; 10 cases cognac and 10 cases champagne, Cutler Palmer and Co; 51 cases portwine, Jamsetjee Framjee; 2 casks brandy, Cawasjee, Dinshaw and Bros; 25 cases sul fate of quinine, H Mooljee and Co; 59 cases medicine, oilmenstore, &c, E Russooljee; 14 cases photo materials B Sakharam and Co.

From Antwerp.

Oriental s—2 cases eau de cologne, Treacher and Co.

Baroda s—135 cases brandy, Dhunjibhoy Cowasjee; 35 bales tissue papers, A Essoofbhoy.

From Hamburg.

Baroda s—13 cases beer, Croft Mody and Co; 13 cases perfumed spirit, A Nacoorda; 7 cases medicine, Shapoorjee Rustomjee Sukhia; 45 cases matches, E Allibhoy.

Drachenfels s—20 bales tissue paper, J Inderjee.

From Charente.

Oriental s—1,275 cases brandy, Dhunjeebhoy Cowasjee; 75 cases brandy, Souza and Fernandes; 75 cases brandy, Jamsetjee Framjee; 100 cases randy, Rustom Ardasir Erranee.

From Bordeaux.

Oriental s—176 cases brandy, Jamse ee Framjee; 50 cases brandy, D Dadabhoy; 26 cases br ndy, C H B Forbes and Co; 75 cases brandy, Sorabjee Cowasjee; 75 cases claret and 101 cases brandy, Dhunjeebhoy Cowasjee.

From Batoum.

Florida s—20,000 cases kerosine oil, Fazulbhoy Janmahomed.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.—February 12.

Jellett, Capt, Bo, R A, on duty, from Aden.
Purdon, Major, Bo, 1st N Lanc Regt, on duty, from Deolalee.
Robinson, Lt, Bo, 1st N Lanc Regt, on duty, from Deolalee.

February 14.

Boyce, Lieut, 16th Ms Infy, on leave, from Bellary.

DEPARTURES.—February 14.

Ford, Lieut, Bo, 6th Rifles, off leave, to Poona.
Gallwey, Col, Bo, I G of Ordnance, on duty, to Amedabad.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY MAJOR G.W. ROUGHTON COMMANDING B. V. A.

Bombay, 15th February, 1894.

1. The following drills will take place this week:—

Fort Head Quarters.

To-day, 8-30 p.m.—Squad Drill Nos. 1 and 3 Sub-divisions.
To-morrow, 8-30 p.m.—Squad Drill Nos. 2 and 4 Sub-divisions.

Nesbit Road Head Quarters.

To-day, 8-30 p.m.—Squad Drill Nos. 2 and 3 Sub-divisions.
To-morrow, 8-30 p.m.—Squad Drill Nos. 1 and 4 Subdivisions.

2. The drill and guard mounting competition will take place in rear of the Town Hall on Saturday next the 17th instant, commencing at 4-30 p.m. Judge: Capt. J. C. Swann, D. A. A. G. assisted by Capt. Campion, G. I. P. R. Vols. Fall in at the Fort Head-quarters, at 4-15 p.m. sharp. Dress—Full dress with arms. Putties to be worn.

By Order,
(Sd.) J. SANDERS SLATER, Lieut,
Acting Adjt., B. V. A.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY LT.-COL. THE HON'BLE L. H. BAYLEY, A.D.C., COMMANDING B. V. R.

Bombay, 15th February, 1894.

1. The Regiment will parade on Saturday the 17th instant at 5 p.m., at the Town Hall. Khaki uniform, helmets, arms and accoutrements. Members who are at the Tram Terminus at Colaba, Parel Road, Grant Road and Girgaum at 4 p.m. and those met on the way will have their fares paid, members defraying their own fares will be refunded the amount on applying after parade to the instructors and producing their Tram Tickets.

Cadets will be conveyed in special Tram Cars on Saturday the 17th instant as follows:—

St. Mary's School—One double and one single Car to leave Victoria Gardens at 4 p.m.

Byculla School—One single Car to leave Victoria Gardens at 4 p.m.

2. The class of Instruction for Proficiency certificate will assemble at Head-Quarters to-day at 6 p.m., and every Thursday until further orders.

3. Revised Rules for H. E. the Governor's Cup.

I. The competition will take place between squads of eight files, one officer and four Non-Commissioned officers, all of whom must belong to the company, only one squad to be sent from each company. There will probably be two cups. The Volunteer companies will complete together and the Cadet Companies will also compete together. The competition will take place at the end of the Drill season.

II. If a Company wins the cup three years in succession, the cup becomes the property of that company.

III. The order in which the Companies will compete will be drawn for immediately before the competition.

IV. Points will be given for the following:—

A.—1st, Precesion of movements; 2nd, Smartness and correctness of dress; and 3rd cleanliness of arms and accoutrements.
B.—Manual and Firing Exercises.
C.—Marching in fours and forming to the front or rear.
D.—Passing Obstacles.
E.—Advance and retire in line.
F.—As a Company changing front as the base Company of a line formation.
G.—The Diagonal March.
H.—As a Company meeting an attack by cavalry.
I.—As a Company in column forming into line.

Bombay Light Horse.

It is notified for general information that the annual Camp will commence at Bandora on Wednesday the 21st instant. Members should provide themselves with putties.

By Order,
(Sd.) T. W. C. LEATHEM, Major,
and Adjutant, B. V. R.

HIGH COURT.—February 15.

(Before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Parsons.)
Suits for Hearing and Final Disposal.

Postponed Long Causes.

435-92—Wadia and G—Cowasjee Pallonjee Pochkhanawalla vs Hormusjee Manockjee Mody—Nanu and H—Part heard.

223-93—Edgelow and G—Narrondas Treebhowandas vs Jaikissondas Gungadas—Bhaishunker and K.

Defended New Long Cause.

591-93—Thakurdas, D and C—Karimjee Allibhoy vs Edward H Elsworthy—Crawford, B and Co.

Postponed Long Causes.

379-93—Payne, G and S—Jacob alias Sassoon and others vs Rowjee Nanchand and another—Brown and M.

586-90—Crawford, B and Co—Khimjee Jairam and another vs Govindjee Thakersee Mooljee—Thakurdas D and C.

424-92—Brown and M—Luchminarayen Withaldas vs Soonkaram Girajee—T A Bland.

508-93—Chalk, W and S—Abdoollabhoy Nanjee vs Karsondas Jairam—Bhaishunker and K.

117-93—Payne, G and S—Gordhandas Pranjiwan and another vs Mulji Cursonji and another—J C Cama.

256-93—Tyabji and D—Thucker Heerji Govindji vs James M Tainsh—Little, S N and B.

(Before the Honble Mr. Justice Farran.)
Suits for Hearing and Final Disposal.

Postponed Long Causes.

656-91—Ardasir, H and D—Francis Law Latham vs Mowlv Abdul Kadur Jeteker and others—Nanu and H, and K D Shroff—Part heard.

291-93—Bhaishunker K—Kessowjee Damodhur and another vs Khimjee Jairam Sewjee and others—Little, S N and B—(For trial of preliminary issues).

399-93—V M Pakvasa for Pauper Harichund Bhicajee vs Rao Bahadoor Ragoba Junardhan Gamankar—Dikshit and H.

THE CONSTANT USE of Fothergill's Madona keeps at bay the enemies of the Human Body in ropical climates, Rheumatism, Torpid Liver, Itchy Skin, and Stone in the Bladder. Re. 1-8 and Rs. 2-8.—MADON, SONS and Bombay.

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Scale for these Advertisements is as follows:—Not exceeding 3 lines, Re. 1; each succeeding line, As. 8. No Trade Advertisements are admitted under this Scale.

MIRTH! MERRY-MAKING!!! Dancing!!! Grand Bargains. Clearance SALE of a Consignment of English Musical Boxes and Aristons is offered at Half price. We offer them at this absurdly low price as the Goods must be cleared before the end of the current month.—MARCKS and Co., Ld., Esplanade Road, Fort Bombay.

FANCY GOODS FOR FURNISHING BUNGALOWS—Art Muslins, Cretonnes, Tapestries, Art Porcelain, Table Ornaments, Table Covers, Curtains, Plated Ware, Cutlery, Inner, Dessert, Tea and Coffee Services, at JOHN ROBERTS & Co., Ld., 18, Marine Street, and 17, Hummum Street.

MAHABLESHWAR DAWK RE-OPENED —Comfortable PHAETON and TONGA DAWKS from POONA to MAHABLESHWAR, also from WATHAR to MAHABLESHWAR, can be obtained at reasonable rates from BURJORJEE PEROSHAW, Diplomaed Dawk Supplier to H. E. the Governor of Bombay and Staff.

MATCHLESS TEAS! GREAT REDUCTION!! Fresh Consignments of New Season Indian Teas from most celebrated Tea Gardens. Unsorted Orange Pekoe, at Re. 1-2; Imperial Family Mixture, 14 as.; Breakfast Mixture, 12 as. per lb.—MORTON MAJU & Co., 22, Church Gate Street.

DURING Mr. BHEDWAR'S ABSENCE from Bombay, on a Business Tour in the Punjab, his Art Studios at Cumballa Hill and in Fort will remain CLOSED from the 15th Inst. till further notice.

V. FUCILE and Co., Theatrical and Court Hair-Dressers, beg to announce the Public that they have Just Received a Fresh Supply of Golden Hair-wash—Eau Melba, Poudre Dentifrice, Eg Julep, Cosmetic Scented, Brilliantine of different Scents, Lavender Water, Pomade Hongroise, Hair Oil, Hair-dye of different Shades, &c., &c. Charges very Moderate.

FANCY GLASS ORNAMENTS.—Very pretty flowerbaskets and, flowervases, from 8 as. to Rs 2. Also Centrepieces, from Rs. 6 to Rs. 12.—LAMP WAREHOUSE, R. DITMAR, late Theodor Knaust, 69, Esplanade Road.

REAL EGYPTIAN CIGARETTES, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 at Rs. 3-8, 3, 2-8, 2 and 1-8 per 100 respectively. We have been appointed Sole Agents for India, Burmah, and Ceylon for these Celebrated Cigarettes manufactured by Mr. G. Bakirtzi of Egypt, of Pure Turkish Tobacco. They have attained the highest reputation in Egypt and other parts of the world, and we doubt not that they will be equally reputed in India and approved generally by those who use them. Arrangements have been made to supply us these Cigarettes fresh every fortnight.—N. B. DANTRA and Co., Church Gate Street, Fort, and 34 and 36, Abdool Rheman Street, Near Crawford Market, Bombay.

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CLEARANCE SALE of Extensive STOCK-IN-TRADE of P. M. MODY & Co., General Merchants, Apollo Street, Bombay.

GENTS' 2-Button White KID GLOVES, reliable quality, Rs. 2 per Pair, Cash or V. P. P.—BADHAM, PILE and Co., Ld., Bombay.

FAMILY PRINTING OUTFIT—For marking Linen, Cards, Books, &c., Consisting of Type-Holder, Tweezer, Ink and Pads in a neat Box. Rs. 5 only.—BLOOMFIELD and Co., 24, Medow Street, Bombay.

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CRUETS!! A Sample Collection of very Fancy Cruets with 3, 4 and 5 Bots., China and Glass at Re. 1, 1-4, 1-8, 2 and 2-8 each.—PEARSE and Co., Apollo Street, Bombay.

BOMBAY GAZETTE Bi-Weekly Edition.—Issued on Monday and Thursday, giving all the News and Telegrams up to date. Subscription per Annum, Rs. 12; Half-yearly Rs. 6; Quarterly Rs. 3, to Subscribers in Bombay; in the Mofussil postage extra.

THE AHMEDABAD HORSE SHOW will NOT BE HELD this year, owing to an outbreak of Cattle Disease in parts of this District.

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THOUSANDS die by Snake-bites, but Thousands of Feverish Patients have been saved by BATLIWALA'S AGUE MIXTURE and PILLS. Surgeon-Major A. S. G. Jayakar, Civil Surgeon, Muscat, says:—"I have used Batliwala's Ague Mixture with success. Surgeon M. E. Reporter, 19th Regiment:—"I have found Batliwala's Ague Mixture very efficacious, &c., &c. C Greengrass Esq. Contractor, Tansa W. Works:—Found it of wonderful efficacy in every case, R. Crizzie, Esq in charge Tunnels, Goilkara:—"I consider it a marvel. Mrs. Temple, Bellary:—It is a sure cure for malarious fever. P. J. Daly, Esq. Chief Guard, S. M. Railway:—It is really a dying man's Gold Drops. Send your orders to Dr. H. L. BATLIWALA, Dadur, Bombay. May also be had of KEMP & Co; PHILLIPS & Co; and DANTRA & Co., at Re. 1.

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Everyone's eyes, at times, suffer from the "Glare of the Indian Sun" and the peculiarly irritating dust of this country, to remedy which the Tinted Lenses of our Spectacles are specially prepared. They are especially

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Members of the Department of the Public Works, Surveyors, Planters, the Staff of the Railways, Travellers, Soldiers on Service, and everyone employed out-doors as well as most other persons. Indeed no one, who is careful about preserving his Sight unimpaired, should be without our Glare and Dust Protectors.

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LOANS and CASH CREDITS for long or short period granted on easy terms, and approved Bills or Cheques discounted.
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The Gujorat Vernacular Society, Ahmedabad.
PRICE .... Rs. 6.
Packing and Postage extra.

SALES BY AUCTION.

CRAWFORD AND COMPANY,
No. 7, MARINE STREET.

SALE OF DAMAGED MORVI COTTON AT COLABA

THIS DAY, THURSDAY, the 15th instant, at 2 p.m., Messrs. CRAWFORD and Co. will sell by Public Auction, at Colaba, in the Jutha of Nathoobhoy Soorjhund, on account of the concerned—

13 buflas and a quantity of loose Morvi Cotton, damaged by fire and water.

AUCTION SALE OF DAMAGED COTTON AT THE FRAMJEE PETIT MILLS, MAZAGON DAROOKHANA.

On SATURDAY next, the 17th instant, at 2 p.m., Messrs CRAWFORD & Co. will sell by Public Auction, at the Framjee Petit Mills, on account of the Insurance Offices concerned—

A large quantity of cotton, damaged by fire and water.
A deposit of 25 per cent. will be required at the time of sale.

CRAWFORD & Co.

Bombay, February 15, 1894.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co.,
No. 4, FORBES & MEDOWS STREETS, FORT.

SALE OF OLD VENETIAN AND PANELLED SHUTTERS, ZINC SHEET OF GUTTERS, CUT TREES, IRON TANK, POSTS, PIPES, IRON, &c.

Under instructions from S. Rebsch, Esq., A.M.I.C.E., Executive Engineer, Presidency, the undersigned will sell by Public Auction THIS DAY, THURSDAY, the 15th February, 1894, at 2 p.m., at the Executive Engineer, Presidency, Storeyard, the following old materials, consisting posts, planking, gate shutters, battens, railings, bamboo cut trees, canvas C. I. privy stands, chunam ghanee wheel, with pole, zinc sheet of gutters, venetian and panelled shutters, rafters, gates, proping sticks, tarpaulins, kerosine boxes and tins, oil drums, iron tank, &c.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co.

Bombay, February 15, 1894.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEB. 14.

REUTER'S London financial telegram of last evening reports Consols and Indian Sterling still unchanged; but the market rates of discount were put down 1/8 per cent. on short London Bills, and ¼ on six months' sight Indian Bank Paper, say to 2 per cent. all round. Four per cent. Rupee Securities were 7/8 per cent. lower, at £57⅞. The price of Bar Silver declined 5/8d. per oz., thus losing Monday's advance and returning to Saturday's quotation of 29⅛d. per oz.; and in New York, the metal was 1¼ cent lower, at 64¼ cents per oz.; demand Exchange on London having advanced ¼ cent to 4·87¼ dollars. The Exchange Banks' buying rate in London on India remained at 1s. 1 11-16d. French Rentes on Paris were unchanged; Paris Exchange in London was a shade easier, at fcs. 25·20.

Linseed was quoted at 39⅛s. per 416 lbs., sellers, shipment this and or next month to Antwerp, Dunkirk, and Hamburg, tone of the market quiet; and No. 1 Soft White Wheat on the spot in Liverpool at 5s. per cental, Ex Quay, tone of the market easier.

The Liverpool Cotton market closed quiet last evening; Surats quiet; and Arrivals quiet but steady; the day's Sales having aggregated only 7,000 bales; East Indians *nil*. The spot price of Mid.-Americans remained at 4¼d. per lb; and Surats were unchanged in value; but American Arrivals were quoted 1-64d. lower in all positions, losing Monday's advance. The day's Imports were 13,000 bales. The Manchester market was quiet.

A decline of 1-16 cent. took place in the price of ready Mid.-Uplands in New York yesterday, at 7 15-16 cents. per oz.; and May Futures were two points lower, at 7.79 cents. The Receipts at the U. S. Ports yesterday were 18,000 bales, and the following comparison is now shown between the total figures for the present season, so far, and those in the two preceding years for the same time:—

	1894.	1893.	1892.
Tuesday's Receipts	18,000	20,000	35,000
Three days' do.	43,000	43,000	78,000
Since 1st Sept. 1893...	5,036,000	4,146,000	5,813,000

A considerable business has been done to-day in our local Cotton Market both by exporters and local consumers in a steady market and at an advance of Re 1 to Rs. 2 per candy. The former have contracted for 1,000 bales of "Fine" Broach, for March delivery, at Rs. 222; and 300 "Fine" Bhownugger, for April delivery, at Rs. 210; and they have bought of ready new Cotton, 200 each of "Fine" Broach, at Rs 220; Kamptee, at Rs. 184¼; Bengal, at Rs. 177; and Khundwa, at Rs. 189, in all 2,100 bales; while the Mills have taken 1,400 bales in all, say, of ready new Cotton, 300 Khandwa, at Rs. 183-4; 200 each of Dhulia, at Rs 166; and Barsee, at Rs. 198; and 150 Karanja, at Rs. 190½; and of old stuff, 300 Dharwar, at Rs. 177; 150 Sheagaum, at Rs. 175-9; and 100 Khangaum, at Rs. 149 per candy.

WHEAT.—Only a small business has been done again to-day for export in this staple, and the tone of the market remains quiet, with prices of all descriptions unchanged.

SEEDS.—The price of *Linseed* has advanced 1¼ anna per cwt., say to Rs. 7-7-0 to 7-9-0 per cwt., other descriptions being unchanged in value. The tone of the market generally has been firm, and a moderate export business has been done.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay yesterday were as follows:—

Cotton............	6,733	bales.
Wheat............	5,680	cwts.
Linseed	9,274	„
Rapeseed	8,612	„
Gingelly............	5,259	„
Groundnuts	14,241	„
Castorseed............	4,381	„
Rice	14,397	„

FREIGHTS are quiet; but not lower for February shipment, and firmer for March—in which position a line of 3,000 tons has been for Genoa, at 21s. per ton—and unchanged but steady for further forward loading.

EXCHANGE opened weak at 1s. 1⅜d. for Bank Telegraphic, and 1s. 1 25-32d. for Demand, and at 1s. 1 31-32d. for three months' sight Credits; but we have not heard of many Merchants' Bills coming out, with the exception of private Telegraphic at 1s. 1 25-32d. and 1s. 1⅜d.; and at the same time, a good enquiry for Bank Demand at 1s. 2 25-32d., and rates from Calcutta also coming weaker, quotations here have receded 1-32d., all round. Though apart from the proceeds of Silver, money is wanted to finance the exports which are going forward, it is not generally expected that the Secretary of State, after his last announcement, will be able to place many of his Bills to-day, and this market closed weak meantime, as follows:—

Bank Bills on Demand ...	1s. 2 23-32d.	per rupee.
Do. Telegraphic	1s. 2 11-16d.	„
Do. 3 months' sight...	1s. 2 25-32d.	„
Credits do.	1s. 2 29-32 to 7/8d.	„
Francs do.	1·46¼.	„

GOVERNMENT PAPER opened weak to-day, at 100 9-16 for Fours for cash, and 100 11-16 for the early March settlement, and rates declined to 100½ both for Money and Account, leaving off, however, 1-16d. better. The price of 3½ per Cents has advanced to 99½.

SHARES.—An advance of Rs. 50 in Maneckji Petit; and of Rs. 2½ in Mazagon Cotton Mill shares; and a decline of Rs. 15 in Luckmidas, are the only changes in our list this evening, the market generally remaining dull and unchanged.

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORT.

FEBRUARY 14.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.
CONTINENT OF EUROPE.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.
AMERICA.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.
AUSTRALIA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.
CHINA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.
AFRICA.—Via Aden, perfect. Via Cadiz-Teneriffe, perfect. Via Lisbon St. Vincent, perfect.

Telegrams in plain language may be accepted for Brazil.
Telegrams for French Guiana should only be accepted via North America, during interruption of the Cayenne-Vizen Cable.
Telegrams in secret language for Sicily cannot be accepted.
Cable San Thome Loanda interrupted.

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

LATEST dates of foreign messages received at Bombay, from the United Kingdom, during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m., of the 14th February, 1894.
(Difference in longitude allowed for)

Via.	Latest Dates.			Time occupied in transmission.	
	D.	H.	M.	Hours.	Minutes.
Turkey	13	6	12 p.m.	5	14
Teheran	14	2	56 p.m.	...	13
Suez	14	2	50 p.m.	...	4

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay during the 24 hours ending 8 p.m., on 14th February, 1894.

	Maximum Time.		Minimum Time.	
	H.	M.	H.	M.
From Calcutta	1	21	...	1
„ Kurrachee	..	27	...	1
„ Madras............	1	2	...	1

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY.
Bombay, 13th February, 1894.
Means of observations at 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected 32 deg. Fah............	29·931
Temperature of the Air............	80·6
Wet Bulb Thermometer	73·0
Dew Point	69·7
Relative humidity of Air............	0·709
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded=10)	0·0
Maximum temperature of air (read at 8 a.m. next day)	88·2
Minimum do. do. (read at 8 a.m.)............	72·7
General Directions of wind*	NE, E, WNW, NE.
Movement of Wind in 24 hours*	1·5

* From midnight to midnight.

THERMOMETER READINGS.

TUESDAY NIGHT, FEBRUARY 13.

10 p.m. — — — — — — — — — —	78·1

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14.

6 a.m. — — — — — — — — — —	74·3
10 a.m. — — — — — — — — — —	81·1
2 p.m. — — — — — — — — — —	83·2
4 p.m. — — — — — — — — — —	83·0

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE OF NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

GRAY—February 9, at Ootacamund, the wife of Charles Gray, Coonoor, of a son.

SANDERSON—February 4, at Simla, the wife of R. W Sanderson, of a son.

STOWELL—January 13 at Merlin Park, Simla, the wife of G F Stowell, Superintendent, Railway Mail Service, of a daughter.

ST. LEGER—February 6, at Nungumbaukum, the wife of William Douglas St Leger, Organist St George's Cathedral, Madras, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

McCULLOCH—SCHONEMANN—February 5, at St Paul's Cathedral, by the Very Rev Archdeacon W. MacCarthy, John Exley McCulloch, eldest son of Hamilton Scott McCulloch, Girvan, Ayrshire, to Lily May, only daughter of the late Theodore Carl Schonemann, of Linstrasse, Winterthur.

MOLESWORTH—FAULKNER—February 6, at Roorkee, by the Rev W A Hamilton, Hon'ble G B Molesworth, Lieut, 1st D C L I, eldest son of the Rev Viscount Molesworth, of Little Petterick, Cornwall, to Nina Alida, youngest daughter of the late Lieut-Colonel Faulkner.

DEATHS.

COMRIE—February 7, at 2, Ross Road, Howrah, "Wee Charlie," youngest son of John Comrie, E I Railway, Rampur Hat, aged 2 years and 6 months.

WARD—February 1, at Kammamett, Nizam's Dominions, Clara Helen Ward, of cholera.

The Bombay Gazette

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1894.

FURTHER light was thrown upon the geneses of the anti-opium petition said to have been signed by Bombay medical practitioners, at the third sitting of the Royal Commission here yesterday. Mr. R. F. Horne, secretary of the Bombay Anti-Opium Alliance, was the first witness, and repeated with amplifications the statement respecting his share in the matter, which we were able more than a month ago to lay before our readers. The document, which alleges that "a man will sell his wife and children to purchase the drug," was drawn up by Mr. Horne and Dr. Ranina, "the only medical man upon the Committee of the Alliance." The original draft of the document was apparently too strong even for the Alliance Committee. Mr. Horne stated in evidence that "the Committee made a few suggestions whereby the petition could be improved," and these suggestions having been carried out, Mr. Horne and Dr. Ranina were authorised to obtain signatures. These gentlemen fulfilled the instructions of their Committee by obtaining not less than one signature each, leaving it to a peon to collect the other autographs, a work for which he asked Rs. 10. Dr. Ranina with unconscious humour wrote to Mr. Horne expressing an opinion that the "petty work" was not worth more than Rs. 5, but in the end a compromise was effected, and the peon received Rs. 8. The man was furnished with an explanatory letter to each of the medical gentlemen on whom he was to call, and was evidently desirous of having something to show for his work. Out of 44 of the alleged signatories, who were afterwards interrogated respecting the petition, only three were forthcoming who made an unqualified admission of the correctness of the allegation. A rigid cross-examination of the peon might result in some interesting evidence, and this being the case, it is disappointing to learn that Mr. Horne "understands the peon is not now in Bombay." The Secretary of the Alliance was proceeding with a long statement respecting the denials which the alleged signatories had made when Mr. Mowbray—who seems to have the happy faculty of always grasping the situation—made the very practical suggestion that before Mr. Horne continued his evidence in defence the Commission should have official cognisance of the denials which had been made by examining some of the medical gentlemen whose names were appended to the printed copy of the petition. The Commission privately discussed the point, and Mr. Mowbray's view was adopted. In stating this fact to Mr. Horne, Lord Brassey gave him the satisfactory assurance that nothing had been brought before them which in the least led them to call in question the *bona fides* of his personal action in the matter. "As I understand," said Lord Brassey, "there may possibly be further consultation between yourself and two members of the Commission, and possibly that may result in your coming before us again on another day."

Before leaving the witnesses' chair, however, the young prohibitionist was cross-examined in reference to the evidence already given. Greatly to his embarassment Mr. Fanshawe exhibited a good deal of curiosity in reference to the data upon which certain statements made in the notorious petition were based. Mr. Fanshawe first called the witness's attention to the paragraph, asserting that great harm resulted "from the practice of giving opium in the form of a small pill to children. This is done by parents in order to save themselves trouble, but the evils that spring from the practice are of a serious nature. Numerous cases of opium-poisoning arise from it, many of which end fatally." Asked for chapter and verse, Mr. Horne, after a long pause, could only reply: "At that time we had before us here and there cases that we knew." "Were any further enquiries made?" asked Mr. Fanshawe, and to this Mr. Horne was only able to say: "We did not think it necessary to make any further enquires." But a still more serious allegation in the petition required explanation, namely, the paragraph stating that an evidence of "the strength the opium habit exerts is the fact that when the means of purchase are exhausted, rather than endure the physical torture caused by its discontinuance, a man will sell his wife and children to purchase the drug." Questioned by Mr. Fanshawe as to the ground of this allegation, Mr. Horne after long pause said that he was at the time the petition was drawn up familiar with the Bombay opium dens; and, he continued "On one occasion I went round with a well known pundit in Bombay, and in conversation with the men in the dens, one of them volunteered the statement that he sold his wife for twenty rupees to get opium." Asked whether any attempts were made to verify this extraordinary allegation, Mr. Horne replied "I am not aware that any investigation was made on that point." To say the least, it is very remarkable that so enthusiastic and enterprising a body as the Anti-Opium Alliance should have allowed information so valuable from their point of view to remain unsubstantiated. It was, according to Mr. own Horne's admission, simply and solely because of this declaration of the opium smoker that the sweeping general assertion quoted above found a place in the petition. Mr. Horne's experience of India was at the time only of brief duration, but even he must have known that his informant did not require twenty rupees, nor even one, to supply the craving of the hour—an anna or two would have been ample for the purpose. Mr. Fanshawe drew from Mr. Horne the reluctant admission that to the ordinary reader the words of the petition "might perhaps" convey the idea that the selling of wives and children for opium was a rather common practice. So far as the petition is concerned the evidence in support of its preposterous assertions has hopelessly broken down.

Mr. Campbell, the Collector of Customs, followed Mr. Horne in the witness' chair, and explained to the Commission that when he heard from one of the alleged signatories—Dr. J. Gerson da Cunha—that he had not signed the petition, he felt it his duty to institute enquiries from other medical gentlemen whose names were given in the petition, and he did so through the Chief Opium Inspector. He handed in to the Commission the written answers of these gentlemen, together with an interesting epitome of their statements. From this it appears that only eight of the 44 gentlemen admit signing the petition, and of these five repudiate the views it contains, leaving only three who adhere to the petition Mr. Wilson, who we are glad to say was sufficiently recovered from his recent attack of fever to be present most of the day, asked Mr. Campbell whether he considered it part of his duty to institute inquiries concerning a petition affecting his department, and Mr. Pease joined in the interrogation. Mr. Campbell would not accept the insinuation that he had exceeded his duty and with quiet dignity pointed out that as he had charge of the Opium Department it was incumbent upon him to obtain authentic information of the views of local medical men upon the uses of the drug. To Mr. Pease's enquiry whether he had ever heard of a case of the head of a department instituting similar inquiries, Mr. Campbell was able to give the obvions answer that he had never heard of a case in which the circumstances in regard to a petition were parallel to this. Dr. Gheesta and Dr. Madon, whose names were offered, were called, and staied that they had no knowledge of the petition, and many others of the alleged signatories who had been summoned to give evidence on the general question, were incidentally asked whether or no they signed the document. Their unanimity in disclaiming connection with it was only equalled by their unanimity in expresssng disapproval of any change in the present system of opium administration. The position at the present moment is therefore this: On the one hand, the Commission has the evidence of Mr. Horne respecting the doings of a peon whose whereabouts seems to be unknown; and on the other hand, they have the statements of Dr. J. Gerson da Cunha, Dr. D. N. Khory, and host of other medical men disclaiming connection with a petition, which on the most flimsy pretext alleges that in India the wives and children of the people are sold for money wherewith to purchase opium. So far the Anti-opiumists have not seized the opportunity afforded them of bringing before the Royal Commission some of "the physical wrecks," the "living skeletons" who have been ruined by opium. Where are they? Surely it must be possible to produce a score or two of those frightful examples whose portraits give such grim actuality to Anti-opium leaflets..

THE Bombay Natural History Society has issued the third number of its eighth volume, which is not in any particular below the average. Not quite a bulky number as the last, it contains the usual variety of matter and excellent illustrations. Surgeon-Major Kirtikar continues his treatise on the poisonous plants of Bombay, and Mr. Abercrombie has a second part of his paper on the "Common Marine Shells of the Bombay Shore." Then Major C. J. Bingham, F. Z. S., contributes a brightly written paper entitled "Collecting Ways and Collecting Days," which is followed by one from the same pen on "New and little known Hymenoptera from India, Burma, and Ceylon." A decided feature is one of Mr. Inverarity's ever-welcome sporting articles, in which he tells of "Sambar and Sambarshooting." M. Auguste Tarel, of the Zurich University, writes on "Les Formicides de l'Empire des Indes et de Ceylon." Mr. Betham's contribution on the butterflies of Matheran will be widely read. Finally, the "Miscellaneous Notes" come, and are of the usual highly interesting order. It is not easy to distinguish between these or decide which should take first place, but perhaps the tale of "A Brave Woman and a Cowardly Tiger" is entitled to the honour, on account of its strikingly evident veracity. It tells of a young Marathi woman, named Parvatti, who in a jungle at Deusu, which lies at the foot of the Amboli Ghaut, was tending some cattle, in July last, when suddenly a tiger made its appearance, with the intention of making his supper off one of the bullocks. The woman, we are told, not wishing to lose one of her precious cattle, very pluckily placed herself between them and the tiger, upon which, "the animal resenting such interference, walked slowly forward and seized the poor woman by the left shoulder, and crunched the upper part of the arm-bone into bits." Fortunately the right arm was free, and the woman "gave the animal several blows on the head with a bamboo." This had the effect of making him let go. "He then retired into the jungle." The woman recovered after two months, and, remarks the author, the story as related by the poor and unsophisticated woman, bears every evidence of truth. It was certainly a gallant tiger; a tigress would have eaten the body up in any other story, except, perhaps, one of Pastor Haegert's. The village of Deusu still stands where it did before July last; so does the Amboli Ghaut. There is no doubt a woman named Parvatti is dwelling there, perhaps several; bullocks and tigers have been seen in the vicinity. What more convincing evidence of the veracity of the story could be desired?

THE progress of education in the Baroda State during the past eight years has been remarkable. Whereas at the end of 1885 there were but two hundred and sixty-one schools and educational institutions of all kinds, at the end of last year the number was eleven hundred and forty-seven, and instead of twenty-seven thousand pupils there were over eighty-four thousand. One novel feature worthy of mark in the past year, we are told in a report just to hand, was that his Highness the Maharaja, whose object is to educate every subject in his dominions, was pleased to approve and sanction a scheme for compulsory education. This experiment has never before been tried in India, and its progress will be watched with the utmost interest. There is a very great prospect of success, for the Gaekwar has planned at least one school in every village, and provided a qualified master to each. The compulsory clauses of his Highness' order were only enforced in October last, so far as the Amroli Mohal extends, for a commencement, and there are already nine villages in which more than seventy-seven per cent. of the children of school-going age are in regular attendance. In order to ensure the stability of the village schools, and better teaching the original scheme to which we drew attention some time ago has been revised, and more considerable remuneration has been offered to teachers. Twenty-eight new Government schools were established last year, making in all a total increase of sixty-one new educational institutions during the year. Sanskrit still continues to be taught in many of the large schools as a classical language. The teaching of music on scientific principles to boys and girls has become popular, and a compilation of native games is expected to be shortly out, which will form an additional means of imparting physical education in the schools. The Maharaja has given it as his opinion that systematic moral teaching should not lag behind, and that this kind of education should go hand in hand with intellectual education. Keeping this object in view, the Department of Vernacular Education has been paying special attention to moral education, and a moral text-book has been introduced in the curriculum of the upper standards of the primary schools.

IT is now pretty evident that the House of Lords will practically veto the Employers' Liability Bill, while passing the Parish Councils Bill—with or without modification. On the 8th inst. the Upper House read the Parish Councils Bill a third time, with numerous amendments that had been inserted in Committee. Apparently the House of Commons, either rejecting or modifying those amendments, sent the Bill back to the Lords, who have passed the Bill, which will now, of course, take its place on the Statute Book as soon as the Royal signature is affixed. Matters have not passed so smoothly with regard to the Employers' Liability Bill. The Bill was sent down with a "contracting-out" clause of a very comprehensive kind. On Monday evening, on re-assembling, the House of Commons by a majority of two accepted the Lords' amendment, with a proviso that it should apply to existing contracts for a period of three years. A further amendment was voted by a majority of twenty-two, prohibiting contracting-out after the period of three years. If the *Times* be correct in stating that the Lords—that is Lord Salisbury—will insist on the insertion of the contracting-out clause in its entirety, the Bill will no doubt be withdrawn. Of the two Bills, for the consideration of which the autumn sittings were decided upon, one will have passed and the other hung-up to be re-introduced in the next Session.

APPARENTLY of set purpose, exchange has been again depressed by the jubilant announcement that the Secretary of State will do nothing to maintain a minimum for Council Bills. Mr. Russell, the Under-Secretary for India, has informed the House of Commons that the Loan Act was not passed for the purpose of upholding a minimum rate. Sir William Harcourt has repeated in the House, the announcement already made in the columns of the *Times*, that the Government has no intention of re-opening the mints, or of reverting to a fixed minimum, or of imposing a duty on silver. The immediate result of these reiterated statements was a further fall in exchange yesterday, and a cessation of all business.

FRONTIER tribes seem destined to cause disturbances. A fresh conflict is just reported from Upper-Burma. News was yesterday received in Bombay, from a private source at Kindat, that the Peewas have made two murderous raids on the Konkes. The Peewas attacked the town of Maingtoung, for which place an expedition was about starting. The town is situated on the Chindwin river, about twenty-five miles north of Homalin. In their raid eight heads were taken by the Peewas. Lieutenant Dominichetti, of the Military Police, and Lieutenant Parry, attached to the Intelligence Department, have started from Kindat to reinforce the post at Maingtoung, and Mr. Porter, the Deputy Commissioner, is to leave with three companies of military police and two guns directly on their arrival from the lower reaches of the river.

YESTERDAY, at the High Court, the Hon. Mr. Justice Jardine and the Hon. Mr. Justice Ranade disposed of a second appeal in the "Seditious Pamphlet Case" from a decision of Mr. Cooper, Chief Presidency Magistrate, who, in October last, convicted the accused, Wallabhdas Sunderjee and Harivalabhdas Bhoydas, of abetment of the offence of rioting by having printed and published a poem, alleged to be calculated to incite the natives of Bombay to riot, and sentenced them each to pay a fine of Rs. 201, or in default to suffer one month's simple imprisonment. It will be remembered that Kanjee Dharamsey, the writer of the "Seditious Pamphlet," was sentenced by Mr. Cooper to pay a similar fine in addition to three months' simple imprisonment, but the conviction and sentence were a short time ago reversed on appeal by their lordships. The appellants in the present case relied on the decision in Kanjee's case, urging that the magistrate had erred in his judgment, as the pamphlet in question was nothing more than a historical record of the riots, and that, instead of being calculated to lead to a revival of the disturbances, it advocated the restoration of peace and order. Their lordships reversed the convictions and sentences in the present case, ordering the fines, if paid, to be refunded to the accused.

MR. F. M. SETNA has made the usual declaration, and been admitted a member of the Bombay Bar.

HIS HIGHNESS THE RAJA OF RAJPIPLA will pay a visit to his Excellency the Governor this morning at 8-30 a.m., Lord Harris will return the visit of his Highness in the evening at half past five o'clock.

DRAWING-ROOM golf is the latest invention for those who like to be ahead in fashionable games, without the trouble of going out of town to play them. Serious people, says the *Daily Telegraph*, have orreries to study when it is too cold or wet to go outside to view the stars; more frivolous-minded persons instal in their parlours an apparatus known as the "petits chevaux," when there is no real horse-racing in the neighbourhood; and golf may yet take the place of billiards as a scientific game entailing moderate exercise. Indeed, a subject of conversation at the Law Courts is the enthusiasm for golf shown by one of the Chancery judges, who has (so it is said) disestablished the tables in his billiard-room and installed in their place a miniature golf course, round which he trudges with great delight.

A TRANS-FRONTIER correspondent sends from Jellalabad some information which may be of interest to those regiments which have lost rifles this cold weather. He writes that "a party of 21 Utkhels under the leadership of Parijan and Shirin who had some time ago left Aglerabad for India returned recently to their homes with 21 H. M. rifles, and a quantity of piece goods, &c. They are professional thieves and disguise themselves as beggars, mullahs, merchants or coolies to gain their object. During the day they take notes of the places they intend to rob, and when night falls they put on the skins of sheep and walk like dogs on their hands and feet. In cases of successful theft, they bury their plunder under ground at a distance from inhabited places. The men generally carry on their person five or six chambered revolvers, a knife, a big stick, and a cobbler's awl."

WHEN Colonel Kirwan was inspecting the Assam Valley Mounted Rifles the other day, he invited those to advance who were prepared to start at a moment's notice to join the Abor Expedition. Immediately the whole of the corps advanced as one man. Evidently the Assam Rifles are animated by the proper spirit for soldiering.

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

THE INDIAN EXCHANGE QUESTION.

IMPORTANT STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT.

LONDON, FEB. 13, MIDNIGHT.

In the House of Commons, to-night, Sir W. V. Harcourt, replying to a question, said that Government had no intention of re-opening the Indian mints or of reverting to a fixed minimum for Council Drafts, or would they impose an import duty on silver. No change, he said, in the policy of the Indian Government was meditated. Sir William said that the borrowing powers under the Act, recently passed, now stood at nine and-a-half millions sterling.

Mr. Russell, Under-Secretary for India, in reply to a question, said that the Loan Act was not passed for the purpose of supporting a plan for upholding a minimum rate for Council Drafts.

THE EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY BILL.

The House of Commons have, by a majority of two votes, accepted the Lords' amendment to the contracting-out clause of the Employers' Liability Bill with an amendment limiting the operation of the clause to three years.

FEB. 14.

The Commons' amendment to the contracting-out clause of the Employers' Liability Bill defers the operation of the clause for three years in respect to existing contracts.

Another amendment was adopted in the Commons by a majority of twenty-two forbidding contracting-out in the future.

The *Times* states that the Lords have resolved to insist on the entire contracting-out clause in the Employers' Liability Bill, and that if so the Bill will probably be withdrawn.

VACANCIES IN THE SUPERIOR ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, FEB. 14.

Three vacancies in the Superior Accounts Department will be competed for next November by nominated candidates.

TEMPORARY CHANGES.

Mr. J. F. Finlay, Secretary to the Government of India, Finance Department, will take furlough to England shortly, when Mr. Stephen Jacob, Comptroller-General, will officiate for him, and the Accountant-General, Bombay, will act for Mr. Jacob, Mr. Oscar Barrow, Accountant-General Bengal, moving to Bombay to fill the place of Mr. Cox.

Mr. Rowlins, the Accountant-General of Madras. probably goes on leave for four or five months during the coming summer, when Mr. F. C. Harrison, Deputy Accountant-General, Bengal, will act for him.

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

POONA, FEB. 14.

The 13th Bombay Native Infantry Regiment left this evening for Bombay by two special troop trains. The regiment was marched to the station escorted by the Band of the Yorkshire Regiment. Several officers were present at the station to see the regiment's departure. They proceed to Aden at the end of March.

THE PRABAS PATAN RIOTS.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

JUNAGAD, FEB. 14.

Hanumanprasad Ganee, naik, Junagadh Police, was examined and cross-examined. He identified three out of the accused as having proceeded on to Dehotsarg Road, three as having ascended Agashi, and two as having struck Nagardas outside the temple.

Sanga Bhim, Mussalman police constable, was next examined and cross-examined. He identified three out of the accused as being present in Dehotsarg when the riots were going on.

Naya Jeta, a Hindu policeman, was next examined and cross-examined. He described what passed within Dehotsarg at the time of the riots, but did not identify any of the accused.

Jamal Aban was next examined, and said he was himself struck. He saw one of the accused near Bhuriabavas temple complaining of being struck with a sword by a Hindu in the temple, and he saw Nagardas nearly dead within the temple building.

Durgadas Anandlal, karkun in the Patan Vahivatdar's office, was examined and cross-examined. He identified seven out of the accused as having proceeded on to Dehotsarg Road and spoke of those that were striking Havas on Agashi.

Nur Isaac, Mussulman constable of Patan police, was examined and cross-examined. He identified three out of the accused as having proceeded on to Dehotsarg Road, and being among those that attacked the police party near Wav. He said that after the police had been pushed back by the Mussulmans into Dehotsarg, stones came from the Hindus on Agashi. He stood facing the Mussulmans, and was struck on the face, chest, and knees. He saw Nagardas dead in the temple, and conveyed information of his death to the Police Superintendent. He saw Valanmia near Wav after seing Nagardas dead.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

LONDOM, FEB. 13.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Grant arrived here this morning.

LIVERPOOL, FEB. 13.

The Hall Line steamer Werneth Hall left here this morning.

ADEN, FEB. 13.

The Austrian Lloyd's s. s. Imperatrix, from Trieste, left for Bombay this evening.

ZANZIBAR, FEB. 13.

H. H. the Sultan of Zanzibaz's s. s. Nyanza arrived here this morning.

The Bombay-Japan Line steamer Hiroshima Marie left Singapore for Colombo on the morning of the 14th instant.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, FEB. 13.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet. Surats quiet.

Good Dhollers	3 5/8
The Manchester Market has been quiet.	
2¾ per cent. Consols	99¼
3 per cent. Rentes	98½
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan	108¾
4 per cent. Rupee Paper	57¾
Bar Silver	29½

THE Government of Madras have sanctioned a special remuneration of Rs. 200 to Mr. P. B. Thomas, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Jeypore, for killing the notorious Kondakambem man-eating tiger on the 20th August last. The death roll ascribed to the tiger from the year 1891 to the day of his death amounts to 49 persons.

A RATHER serious accident took place on Sunday morning last on board the Capella, as she was dropping down the Hughli past Fort Point. It appears that a detonating shell was being shot off, when, instead of the projectile taking an upward course, it appears to have burst and sent iron splinters over the deck, doing much damage, besides badly hurting one of the officers in the thigh. The attendance of the district surgeon of Diamond Harbour had to be requisitioned. Strange to say, just at the time of this occurence, the vessel's stern took the ground and she slewed head down stream, but floating off, proceeded without any apparent damage.

SPORT AND ATHLETIC .

(FROM OUR SPORTING CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, JAN. 26.

STEEPLECHASING—ITS SPICE OF DANGER.

STEEPLECHASING is a very popular sport. People who are not absorbed in flat-racing love to watch steeplechases, for it provides a picturesque and exciting spectacle. Folks who are not gamblers can enjoy a steeplechase, and, moreover, do. Given a clear day, a coign of vantage, and a rare pair of binoculars, there are few more exciting sights than the race for the Grand National at Liverpool. It may sound heresy, but I would rather watch it than the Epsom Derby. Truly there is not the carnival, but there is a long and severe race, with the additional spice of danger ! To see either a bold horse or a pluckly ride in peril is fascinating to the average man. You know we are now not half so civilised as we try to make ourselves believe. There is much truth in the remark of the Irish peasant who took up a position near a terrible jump at a country steeplechase meeting, observing that may be he might see a beautiful corpse. It's a queer idea of enjoyment, but how many people do find pleasure in contemplating the gruesome and bloodcurdling. A fight between two men, or even two dogs round the corner will always gain a circle of sightseers in England. Our boasted sivilization is mostly veneer. And danger in sport is like sauce to food. As Adam Lindsay Gordon, the Australian Beranger, writes :—

> " No game was ever yet worth a rap,
>   For rational man to play.
> Into which no danger, no mishap,
>   Could possibly find its way.
> If you hold the willow, a shooter from Wills
>   May transform you into a hopper ;
> And the football meadow is rife with spills,
>   If you feel disposed for a cropper.
> In a rattling gallop with hounds and horse
>   You may chance to reverse the medal,
> On the sward with the saddle your loins across,
>   And your hunter's loins in the saddle :
> In the stubble you'll find it hard to frame
>   A remonstrance firm yet civil.
> Wen oft as our mutual friends take aim,
>   Long odds may be laid on the rising game,
> And against your gaiters level.
>   Ther's danger even where fish are caught
> To those who a wetting fear,
>   And what's worth having must aye be bought,
> And sport's like life, and life's like sport,
>   It ain't all skittles and beer."

And it is from this point of view that steeplechasing is so popular.

SPORTING " MOONLIGHTERS."

An amusing narrative of the origin of steeplechasing has been printed. It is said that on a certain evening in December, 1803, in the messroom of the cavalry officers, then stationed at Ipswich, a young captain named Hansum challenged any brother officer to run against a certain favourite grey horse of his, four miles across country, for £25. He was answered with a chorus " Done, done !" Hansum replied : " Four miles and a half under the saddle, from here to Nacton Church now. It's a moonlight night, the weather open, the country clear ; we shall not find a better opportunity." This was agreed to, and all the officers rose from the mess table. Another chimed in with the original idea : " I think we should look interesting if we wore clean night-shirts over our uniforms, and cotton night-caps on our heads." " Hurrah, hurrah, well said," was the universal rejoinder. Eight officers were soon ready for this mad nocturnal frolic. Away they went in night-shirts and caps like so many ghostly Tam o' Shanters. Report says they lay well together. At the first fence one of the horses turned a somersault, and horse and rider were both landed on a muddy ditch, while a major with his shirt tail flying in the wind vainly tried to make his horse jump the same fence. In the course of the steeplechase one jumped through the middle of a five-barred gate, and even Hansum's grey came to grief. The other four who stood up clattered through the village of Nacton Heath, and filled with terror the rustics who put their heads through the latticed windows to see these shrouded, shrieking simpletons dashing along on their steeds. As the poet says (I am fond of the poets) :—

> " The steam of their steeds,
> Like a mist of the meads.
> Veiled the moon in a curtain of cloud ;
> And the stars so bright,
> Shuddered in light.
> As the unhallowed troop, in their shadowy shroud,
> Galloping, whooping, and yelling aloud,
> Fast and unfailing, and furious in flight,
> Rattled on like hailstorm and vanished in night."

I suppose you will shrug your shoulders, and declare that this freak is so like the mad young bloods of the beginning of this century, and that we should't think of engaging in so wild a folly as a moonlight steeplechase in these days. We are so civilised now. Allow me to tell you that only a very few years ago—five or six at the most—there was a very similar moonlight steeplechase at Melton Mowbray, and I was told that this midnight diversion was suggested by a fashionable lady who is well known in the Shires. She is at Melton during the present season. The midnight steeplechase caused quite a sensation, and was vigorously denounced by the old fashioned rector in Melton's noble parish church. But this officer's freak at the beginning of the century had as much to do with the origin of steeplechasing as the fairy tale about young ladies being the originators of round arm bowling.

THE ORIGIN OF STEEPLECHASING.

Steeplechasing, as its name implies, means chasing between steeples. It suggests a race over hedge and ditch, over lands in fallow, over level pastures, across roads and lanes from one steeple to another steeple—from starting point to finish. Such races as these arose naturally enough from the rivalry of the hunting field. To settle the question of superiority as between two horses and two riders it was absolutely necessary that they should have a race without being hampered by hounds. This is the evident origin of steeplechasing, and not the post-prandial whim of a few officers. The oldest record of a steeplechase is between the Church of Buttervant to the spire of St. Leodigarius in 1752. This was in Ireland, and was between two native gentlemen named O'Callaghan and Blake. Steeplechases were common in Ireland at the beginning of the present century. " The Druid." published " Scott and Sebright " in 1862, and at page 300 I am interested to read :—" It is now some seventy years since the first steeplechase was run off in Leicestershire. The distance was eight miles from Barkby Holt to the Coplow and back, and Mr. Charles Meywell, son of the great Mr. F. H., won it ; Lord Forstter was second, and Sir Gilbert Heathcote last." There is very little real tradition respecting it, except that Sir Gilbert's horse was rather fat, that Lord Forester was the favourite, and that Mr. Needham, of Hungerton, said to his lordship " I'll save you a hundred yards if you'll come through my garden and jump the gate in the road." No doubt in those days considerable latitude as to route was allowed, provided one traversed the country between two points agreed upon. It reminds one of the old game of football when the goals were a few miles apart, and the players recognised no boundaries, and stopped not at rivers so long as they, either by force or strategy, goaled the ball, says at the windmill or on the doors of John Smith's barn. The " sporting Magazine " gives several accounts of extraordinary steeplechases early in the century. Steeplechasing became very popular with the young bloods of the day. " Hunting church steeples " and twenty mile chases in the hour were great events.

RARE " SPORTS " OF OTHER DAYS.

Men backed their horses for large sums in some of these steeplechase matches. You have probably heard of the famous steeplechase between Clinkar and Crasher, the owners of which were Captain Horatio Ross (the father of the first winner of the Queen's Prize) and Lord Kennedy. This match, in 1824 or 1825, was for £4,000, over the course already referred to from Barkby Holt to Billesdon Coplow. The match was probably made while the wine flowed at the dining-table of the old Melton Club, nearly opposite the Parish Church, to which I have alluded. Captain Douglas rode for his lordship, and keen-eyed Captain Ross steered his own horse and won. There were many such sporting events then. Indeed, there were one or two matches between Captain Ross and Mr. Gilmour, a great hunting man then. Captain Ross was not so clever on horseback as he was with a pistol. I think I have told you how Captain Ross backed himself to kill twenty flying swallows with a pistol and ball, and did it. The wager in this case was £100, and he won it one morning before breakfast. Dick Christian, who for 50 years jumped the ditches and breaks of Leicestershire, and has been immortalised by " The Druid," declares that " The Captain was a poor hand across country without someone to lead him ; couldn't make his own running nohow, but go anywhere anyone else went ; a bold man, and a good creature he was too." Yes, this happy phrase, a bold man, a good creature, describes dozens of sportsmen of the old school.

PROGRESS OF THE SPOT : ST. ALBAN'S STEEPLECHASES.

Steeplechasing and hurdle-racing gradually began to be in vogue, especially at the old-fashioned town of St. Albans. The first St. Albans steeplechase was run in the spring of 1830. This was won by Little Wonder, and the stake was worth about 300 sovs. This race was managed by a popular man of his day named Tommy Coleman. His idea was two miles out and two miles in, " keeping the line quite dark." Accordingly, the " Druid " tells us that he concealed men in the ditches, with flags, which they raised on a given signal, as soon as the riders were ready. Other managers liked four miles straight, and after erecting scaffold poles, with a couple of sheets to finish between, they left the riders to hunt the country for their line, with no further directions than " leave that church on your right, and the clump on your left, and get to the hill beyond." In 1831 the St. Albans Steeplechase was won by Moonraker, a horse who was bought out of a water-cart for £18. But he could jump. Mr. Coleman made the riders saddle at a bugle call, and laid down strict laws. Such were some of the earliest steeplechases. It was evidently great fun for the competitors, and those who could follow them on horseback. But it afforded no pleasure to masses of spectators, and it left room for a certain amount of trickery for the riders and their horses. It is obvious that there was too much latitude. As it says in the Badminton volume on " Racing :" " A fair field and no favour for competitors, and an opportunity of witnessing the progress of the contest for spectators, were imperatively demanded.

THE FIRST GRAND NATIONAL.

The first attempt to realise these desires was at Liverpool in 1836. A round two-mile course was arranged at Aintree, where the sport could be planely seen from the grand stand. A sweepstakes of 10 sovs. each, with 80 sovs. added, for horses of all ages, 12st. up, gentlemen riders, was won by the famous Captain Becher, on the Duke. The example of Liverpool was followed at Leamington, Aylesbury, Newport Pagnell, and other places. The sport began to be popular, and in 1839 the Liverpool Grand National was inaugurated. This was a sweepstakes of 20 sovs. each, with 100 sovs. added, 12st up, gentleman riders, and four miles across country. There were 55 entries, and no fewer than 17 started, the race being won by Lottery, ridden by Jem Mason, who had made the acquintance of his mount the year before. Lottery was a great chaser. The " Druid " tells us that " when others could hardly rise at their fences he seemed to jump as if from a spring-board. His jumping muscles were first brought into such high play by putting him in a ring, with flights of rails round it, and a man in the middle to keep him moving." Lottery took part in the four succeeding Grand Nationals, but he was never successful again, although he and Jem Mason carried all before them in other parts of the country. John Elmore, the garrulous owner of Lottery, lived until he was 66, and loved Lottery as a man worships his son. If ever a friend went to see John Elmore, he would order Lottery to be brought out and saddled. " Hang it ! " he would say, " have you never been on the old horse ? Get up !" And up you had to get. Reverting to this first Grand National, Captain Becher rode a horse called Conrad. He rode him up to what was then a fence with double rails and a large ditch dammed up on the off-side. Conrad made a mistake and hit the rails, and the Captain was off. Unto this day the place is called Becher's Brook, after the Captain, who was really a gallant rider.

A CONTROLLING POWER.

Steeple-chasing became exceedingly popular all over the country, and like most other uncontrolled sports, it was exceedingly corrupt. The word " illegitimate" was very correctly applied to it. Steeplechasing was then in the same state as pony and galloway racing is, or was, a very short time ago. All kinds of chicanery prevailed, and the sport was confined to bad horses and worse men. The Jockey Club refused to recognise it in any way, but at length, owing to the perseverance and influence of Mr. W. G Craven, the Duke of Beaufort, Mr. George Payne, Lord Suffolk, and Lord Coventry the Grand National Hunt Committee was formed in 1866. Rules were framed and Messrs. Weatherby undertook to issue a steeplechase calendar. The sport was now controlled and improved both in quality and tone. The committee was re-formed about ten years ago, and now works in cordial harmony with, and in close relationship to, the Jockey Club. Such is a brief outline of the origin and development of the sport of steeplechasing as we now know it. Hurdle-racing is, of course, an off-shoot of the other branch of the sport.

SOME GRAND NATIONAL FACTS

Since 1839 the Grand National has been the great event of the steeplechasing world. It is known as the Cross-country Derby, and well it deserves to be so styled. It is no joke to gallop a horse over four miles and about 1,000 yards, encountering *en route* close upon 30 jumps. This is no trifling ordeal for either man or horse. And yet Abd-el-Kader won twice in successive years (1850-51), a feat rivalled by The Colonel in 1869 and 1870. The Lamb also won in 1863 and 1871, and Peter Simple in 1849 and 1853. As to riders, I find that G. Stevens has piloted five winners home, namely, Freetrader, and the sisters Emblem, and Emblematic and The Colonel. Mr. Tom Beasley, the Irish gentleman, was on the back of Empress, Woodbrook, and that most persevering of mares. Frigate. Mr. Thomas also rode three winners, namely, Anati in 1860, The Lambkin in 1871, and Pathfinder in 1875. Mr. Thomas enjoys the distinction of having taken part in eighteen Grand Nationals. Tom Olliver, J. Page, Mr. Richardson, and Mr. E. P Wilson have each had a leg-up on two of the winners of this event. Another fact worthy of note is that until last year no horse carrying over 12 stone had ever won the Grand National since it was converted into a handicap. Several had been returned the winner with 11st. 12lb. as an impost, but Cloister was the first to establish a record by cantering home with such a burden as 12st. 7lb. Cloister may have had no animals with any great pretensions to beat, but he deserves credit for his performance. But I shall take another opportunity of chatting to you about chasers. This will be early in April, when the " illegitimate season " is fast drawing to a close.

THE HARMSTON CIRCUS.

THE opening performance by Mr. Harmston's Circus Troupe will be given this evening in the large *marquee* on the Esplanade, opposite the New Municipal Buildings, when a very grand and attractive programme will be presented. Mr. Harmston's family is well known to the Bombay public, who had the advantage of witnessing first class feats of equestrianism by Mr. Harmston and his family some time ago, when they first appeared in the arena of Signor Chirini's circus. The two young brothers, Gilbert and Frank Harmston, are now grown-up young men. Bombay will once more have the opportunity of seeing the graceful acts of Madame Blonde on a bareback horse. Miss Nelly Bailey, the distinguished equestrienne, who has the honour of having been introduced to Her Majesty the Queen, has also joined Mr. Harmston's Circus, which boasts of no less than seventy artistes, who have already made a name in their respective performances. The Japanese troupe is another important feature of the Circus, where " jungle celebrities" are to be found in an uncommonly large number. In the menagerie there are two elephants, and five dens of performing animals, including lions, tigers, leopards, &c., and twenty cages of wild beasts. Mr. Harmston has brought with him fifty-four horses and ponies, many of which are trick animals and perform their parts with uncommon obedience and answer every demand of their trainer. The Circus is one of great attractiveness, and the programme for the opening night includes many interesting items. There is no doubt the pavilion will be crowded to its utmost capacity.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE annual meeting of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce was held, yesterday afternoon, in the Graham's Buildings, Mr. W. R. Macdonnell in the chair. There were also present : Messrs. A. F. Simpson (Bank of China, Japan and the Straits, Ld.) ; George Cotton and H. Greaves (Greaves Cotton & Co.) ; A. Abercrombie (Messrs. Latham, Abercombie & Co.) ; L. R. W. Forrest, F. A. Reddie, and H. E. E. Procter (Messrs. Killick, Nixon & Co.) ; H. C. Wright (Bombay Company, Limitted) ; G. K. Heinrichs (Messrs. Glade & Co.) ; I. O'Callaghan (B. B. & C. I. Railway) ; N. S. Glaze-brook and C. H. Armstrong (Lyon & Co.) ; F. Graham (Messrs. W. and A. Graham & Co.) ; F. C. Macrae (Messrs. Ritchie Steuart & Co.) ; E. Schoen (Messrs. Gaddum, Bythell & Co.) ; F. W. Shaw (Messrs. Fleming, Shaw & Co.) ; A. McLaggan (Messrs. C. H. B. Forbes & Co.) ; Arthur C. Trapp (South British Fire and Marine Insurance Co. of New Zealand) ; G. A. Barnett, C.I.E. (G. I. P. Railway) ; A. Pallis and C. G. Giro (Ralli Brothers) ; M. C. Turner (Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.) ; Vizbucandas Atmaram (Narandas Rajaram & Co.) ; B. J. Rustomjee (Messrs. H. J. Rustomjee & Co.) ; J. W Brown (Messrs. C. Macdonald & Co.) ; L. Aeppli (Messrs. Volkart Brothers) ; S. L. Wyatt (Agra Bank, Limited) ; J. Fairclough (Messrs. Finlay, Muir & Co.) ; F. M. Flower (Messrs. Edward Bates & Co.) ; T. Sharples (Messrs. Kerr, Tarruck & Co.) ; J. Tintner (Messrs. A. Blascheck & Co.) ; G. H. Townsend (Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation) ; J. A. Shepherd (Messrs. Shepherd & Co.) ; and H. Stanher (Messrs. Prier de Saone & Co.).

Mr. John Marshall, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, having read the notice for which the meeting was convened, the Chairman moved the adoption of the report from which the following are the extracts :—

The report commenced with the statement that the past year has been an exceedingly quiet one, and has not brought up for discussion by your Committee any leading question with the one exception of

CURREECY LEGISLATION,

which since the closing of the Mints to the free coinage of silver on 26th June 1892, has overshadowed all other commercial subjects. Upon the action of Government, in the absence of any mandate from the general body of members, your Committee have not considered themselves called upon to offer an opinion either for or against ; but about the middle of August, when the Committee considered Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India had selected an inopportune moment for suddenly accepting a reduced rate for Council bills, they telegraphed their views on the subject to the Government of India.

SILVER IMPORTED BY EXCHANGE BANKS AFTER CLOSING OF THE MINTS.

At the time the Mints were closed to the free coinage of silver, the Indian Exchange Banks had, in the ordinary course of business, a very large amount of silver on the way to India which, on being tendered at the Mint, was, as a matter of course, refused. The various Banks, as members of the Chamber, stated their case to the Committee who, after very careful consideration, agreed to support the claims of the Banks for the admission of the silver to free coinage. They accordingly telegraphed to Government that, at a special meeting of the Committee held to consider the position of the Exchange Banks with reference to silver bullion arrived and in transit prior to the passing of the special Act closing the Mints, it was resolved that the Committee should respectfully address Government in support of the Banks' claim that their silver be accepted on the terms existing at the time their purchases were made and shipments effected. Stating that the information placed at the disposal of the Chamber by the Banks went to show that the silver in question had been bought and shipped to meet legitimate requirements of trade and not for purposes of speculation, the Committee were of opinion that the Banks had an equitable claim to have their silver admitted to free coinage. They further added that the existing position was causing considerable disturbance to trade, and accordingly asked for an early and favourable decision. In their letter of 3rd July, confirming this telegram, the Committee dealt with the question at greater length, laying stress mainly on the fact that the information placed at their disposal by the Banks went to show that the silver in question had been bought and shipped to meet ordinary day to day commitments incurred in the regular course of banking business. They, therefore, held that the Banks were justified in claiming to be placed in the same position as they would have been had the special Act not been passed, and not to any lesser measure of compensation. The Committee took no objection either to the secrecy observed by Government regarding their intentions or the promptitude with which they were carried into effect ; on the contrary, they freely acknowledged that, granted the measure was advisable in the interests of the country at large, it was incumbent on Government to pass it into law in such a manner as to prevent their action being anticipated and trade disorganised by speculation. They further pointed out that there was nothing in the position which would have warranted the Banks in anticipating the immediate closing of the Mints ; on the country, with the exception of unauthorised and irresponsible rumours on which no prudent men of business would have been justified in acting, everything pointed in the opposite direction, or at all events warranted the belief that no action would be taken without safeguarding the interests of legitimate traders. Only ten days preceeding the action of Government, Her Majesty's Under-Secretary of State for India stated, in Parliament, in reply to a question, that an Act of the Council of India would be required before the Indian Mints could be closed, but that pending this the Government could extend the period for certificates for the delivery of silver coin. This, if it meant anything at all, could only be interpreted as indicating that if the Indian Mints were closed against free coinage, it would only be in such a manner and under such precautions as would protect legitimate importers of silver from being subjected to unexpected loss, and was certainly so interpreted at the time by the mercantile community. Unless, therefore, the entire trade of the country was to be so materially restricted as to be practically brought to a stand-still for an indefinite period, the Banks were not only justified, but their obligations to their constitutents - the mercantile community—compelled them to go on purchasing bills so long as they could do so without undue speculative risk, or, in other words, so long as they could simultaneously lay down funds for the purpose by the purchase of Council Drafts or silver, and this, they contended, was precisely what they had done, neither more nor less. Admitting that the comparatively large amount of silver arrived and afloat at the time of the closing of the mints, when the exports season was undoubtedly drawing to a close, might, at first sight, appear scarcely in accordance with this contention, they pointed out that the heavy sales of Government Paper to London must be taken into account as having been the leading cause of these imports. But irrespective of that, the broad fact remained that the Banks were in a position to show that their silver purchases were, when the Act was passed, covered by bills payable in Europe bought on this side. At the same time the Committee urged the important point that the heavy imports of silver were not made at the expense of a diminished demand for the Secretary of State's bills on India. Had that been the case, the claims of the Banks to the fullest consideration on the part of Government might have been prejudiced had it been appearent that they were only buying silver as a means of remittance to the exclusion of Council drafts ; but this was not the case, for the Secretary of State had been able to sale by drafts and transfers between 1st April and 30th June a total of Rs. 932,57,187, or an average of Rs. 71,73,629 per week, as against the nominal offerings of Rs. 60,00,000 per week.

The negotiations which subsequently ensued resulted in the Banks obtaining a much more favourable settlement than the Government were at first apparently disposed to concede ; but even the better terms gained leave considerable loss to the Banks.

THE INDIAN MERCHANT SHIPPING BILL, 1892.

The past year has again been one devoid of special interest in regard to commercial legislation, only one enactment of first importance having been introduced, namely, The Indian Merchant Shipping Bill, 1892. This Bill was forwarded to the Chamber for opinion in January 1893, and, as usual, where any question of importance to trade is concerned, it was submitted for criticism to a Special Committee, consisting, in this instance, of Mr. R. S. Campbell, (Chairman of the Chamber) whose place was subsequently taken by Mr. W. R. Macdonell ; Mr. H. W. Uloth (Superintendent, P. and O. S. N. Company) ; Mr. L. R. W. Forrest (Messrs. Killick, Nixon and Co.) ; Mr. M. C. Turner (Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co.) ; and Mr. J. A. Shepherd (Messrs. Shepherd and Co). The Bill having been perused clause by clause, the Special Committee submitted a report thereon, which was ultimately adopted by the general Committee and forwarded to Government as embodying the opinion of the Chamber. The main purport of the Bill being to consolidate the existing law regarding shipping, met with the approval of the Committee ; and there can be little doubt that the result of it being passed would be to place the existing law on merchant shipping and the carriage of passengers by sea on a much better basis than now exists. The chief points which appeared to invite criticism were the fact that the Bill embodied nothing respecting the disputed question of what decks were to be measured for passengers, a point upon which the report of the Native Passenger Ships Commission, dated Calcutta, 28th February 1891, treated a the first and most important to be enquired into, and regarding which the rules under the Native Passenger Ships' Act—which the Special Committee considered in conjunction with the Indian Merchant Shipping Bill, and rendered a separate report thereon—was also silent. As regards the detailed provisions of the Bill, the Committee pointed out that the word " burden," as taken to indicate the size of vessels, did not now convey any specific meaning, and they accordingly recommended the substitution of " net registered tonnage." They also considered that the exemption from certain provisions of the Act proposed to be conferred upon sailing ships, not carrying passengers, navigated and manned exclusively by Arabs, lascars, or other Asiatic masters and seamen, was not in the interests of safe navigation, and they recommended that precautions should be taken to see that those vessels were as carefully navigated as in the case of British manned vessels. They also pointed out the undesirability of exempting home trading vessels of a burden of less than 150 tons from requiring a load-line to be marked upon them, the owners, as a rule, being people of small means, anxious that their vessels should carry the greatest amount of freight possible, and therefore quite as likely, as owners of larger vessels engaged in the foreign trade, or even more so, to endanger the lives of those navigating the ships. Some of the provisions regarding the providing of food and water for vessels engaged in short voyages were also objected to, instance being given of Messrs. Shepherd and Company's steamers—which sometimes enter as many as fifteen ports in twenty-four hours—as showing the absence of any necessity for providing food, especially as the passengers are almost entirely native, and would object to such food even if provided. A long representation from the Perim Coal Company, pointing out the inequitable character of the proposed definitions of Home-trade and foreigngoing steamers as likely to affect their trade between Aden and Perim, as also the requirements regarding medical officers on short voyages between Aden and the Somali Ports, the Committee considered it advisable to pass on to Government in full, at the same time endorsing the views expressed by the Company. As already mentioned, in conjunction with their report on the Merchant Shipping Bill, the Committee considered it advisable to send in a report to Government on the

DRAFT RULES UNDER THE NATIVE PASSENGER SHIPS ACT.

These rules, in some instances, materially affect the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Bill. The Committee in addressing Government pointed out that the Government of India Resolution, dated Simla, 16th October, 1890, appointing the Native Passenger Ships' Commission, directed the Commission to report, first, upon the disputed question as to what decks were to be measured for passengers, and that in the report of the Commission, dated Calcutta, 28th February 1891, paragraph 10, the Commission treated this point as the first and most important to be enquired into ; yet the report was silent and made no deliverance or recommendation in connection therewith. Further, the Draft Indian Merchant Shipping Bill, the outcome of the Native Passenger Ships' Commission, as also the new draft rules prepared by Government in supression of Notification No. 1353 of 14th March 1889, were also silent upon the question, while they re-enacted the old rule that no vessels trading between India and the Red Sea should carry passengers in two between decks. It was evident, therefore, that the question the Government of India had set itself to solve had not been dealt with in any way. During the preceding pilgrim season, the measuring officers of pilgrim steamers at Bombay decided for themselves that a poop constituted a second between deck and cut the space out of the measurements of pilgrim steamers. These officers admitted, when questioned, that they had no rule or special authority for making this deduction beyond the construction which they were pleased to put upon the rule, dated 14th March 1889, which had been in force for four years, but had not previously been so construed. The importance to the shipping interests, therefore, that some definite understanding should be arrived at was very evident ; as with the troop-ships and P. and O. steamers constantly carrying passengers between India and the Red Sea on more than one between deck, it appeared a hardship that the pilgrims, who were extremely poor, should be forced to pay for superior accommodation to what the Government allotted their European troops. With regard to the detailed provisions of the rules, the Committee considered that the requirement that a medical officer and a permanent hospital should be provided in steamers performing short voyages was unnecessary. While it might not be an objectionable clause for vessels engaged in long voyages or in the pilgrim trade, there seemed no good reason why such voyages as those performed by the British India Steam Navigation Companys' vessels from Bombay to the Persian Gulf, should be treated on the same basis. The Committee also objected to the fitting of iron grating hatches for ventilating purposes, as these gratings would necessarily require to be made strong enough to bear the weight of passengers—who generally make use of such places for sitting on—and would, therefore, be awkward to handle and likely to cause serious accidents if they fell between decks. The requirement regarding lifeboats the Committee also considered unnecessary, and suggested that the rules of the Board of Trade, under this head, should be followed.

Since the submission of this report in June last, the Chamber has received no further communication from Government on the subject. The Bill has come up for consideration at the Legislative Council, and has been referred to a Select Committee. Later in the year your Committee saw fit to take exception to a notification published by Government under Section 53 of the Native Passenger Ships' Act, 1889, for purposes of regulating the mode of embarking and disembarking passengers from the steamers of the Bombay Steam Navigation Company, and addressed Government thereon. To their representations, however, (which were based mainly upon information obtained from the Bombay Steam Navigation Company) the Committee have had no reply.

PRESIDENCY SMALL CAUSE COURTS BILL.

This Bill has not been submitted to the Chamber by Government, but through a member of the Chamber the Committee have been favoured with a copy of a report submitted to the Government of India in the Legislative Department upon the proposed enactment by the European and Anglo Indian Defence Association, who were desirous that the Chamber should support their views. Before deciding whether or not to take action upon this representation, the Committee deemed it desirable to obtain the opinions of the legal members of the Chamber, and, having done so, decided to refrain from addressing Government on the subject, as the majority of the opinions elicited indicated that the main feature of the Bill—giving a right of appeal to the High Court in all cases over Rs. 1,000—was not, from a commercial point of view, an objectionable feature, but the reverse. Furthermore, Government were already possessed of the views of the Chamber on the alterations which this Bill would import into the existing law in the report submitted by the Chamber to Government in 1891, upon suggestions regarding proposed alterations in the Presidency Small Cause Courts ; and there was no reason, therefore, to suppose that these views required emphasizing by further representations.

DECK AND LOAD-LINES ACT.

In May last the attention of the Chamber was drawn to a notification published by the Port Officer of Bombay intimating that, in accordance with the rules under the Deck and Load-Lines Act, 1891, published under Departmental Notification of 13th March 1893, no vessels would be permitted to leave Bombay between 20th May and 30th September, loaded beyond the line at the bottom of the disc placed on the sides of vessels under the Board of Trade Rules, which would be equivalent to the winter line in English waters. This notification having merely been published in the *Government Gazette* and in the Office of the Port Officer, had escaped the notice not only of the Chamber but of Steamer Agents and others interested ; and it was by accident, therefore, that attention was drawn to it at the last moment. As it was manifest that the enforcement of the rules, under the circumstances, would be attended by considerable injustice to all concerned, the Committee of the Chamber telegraphed to the Government of Bombay asking that the rules might be suspended pending a representotion to be forwarded by letter, and in consequence of that telegram the rules were placed in abeyance, and so far have not been revived. In their letter, to Government the Committee pointed out, in the first instance, how the matter escaped notice. So far back as 1885, the Government consulted the Chamber with reference to a proposal for the establishment of a load-line for vessels leaving Indian waters, and in consequence thereof Steamer Agents and others interested referred the question to their principals at home. The replies received from owners indicated that they deprecated any action being taken in India until the result of the discussion then going on in England on the subject had been definitely ascertained, and this view the Chamber communicated to Government. In 1890 the matter was again revived by the passing of the English Merchant Shipping Act in that year when, in response to an enquiry from Government, your then Committee prominently drew attention to the fact that monsoon weather in India was never so bad as winter weather on the English Coast, and that summer weather in the United Kingdom was never so uniformly fine as the fair season in India. They accordingly suggested that marks should be laid down for the fine season limit in this country and for the monsoon months respectively. No further reference was made to the Chamber, but by notifications published in the " Government Gazette" of 1st December 1892 and 16th March 1893, respectively, it was laid down that the Indian load-line during the monsoon months should be the same as the English winter load-line. As already remarked the fact that these rules were only published in the " Government Gazette," and not as usual also in any of the daily papers, while no further reference had been made to the Committee of the Chamber who had already objected to this basis of load-line, the matter entirely escaped notice until it was intimated that vassels actually loading would not be permitted to leave the harbour except in accordance with the new rules. Recapitulating what the Chamber had formerly urged, and pointing out that the enforcement of the new regulations would amount in steamers, such as are usually loaded in Bombay for Europe, to a difference in carrying capacity of something like 100 to 150 tons of cargo, it was shown that in the twenty-four years which had clapsed since the first opening of the Suez Canal, only two steamers had been lost between Bombay and Aden during the monsoon season, and that even in those cases there was nothing whatever to indicate that the disasters arose from overloading. They also added that, with the exception of possibily a few days at the burst of the monsoon when ordinarily heavy weather was experienced, and even then the strength of the monsoon gale could not be said to exceed a summer storm on the Coast of England, the greater portion of the monsoon period simply meant strong head-winds which the powerful and well-equipped steamers of the present day encountered without danger or difficulty. Further, the enforcement of the rules would practically place steamers trading between India and England on the winter load-line for ten months of the year, the English law enforcing that mark from 1st October to 1st April, while from 21st May to the end of September the new monsoon requirement would have to be observed. The matter was one of so much importance to the shipping trade that attention was drawn to it in Parliament, and later in the year the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom addressed this Chamber handing a copy of questions addressed to the Under-Secretary of State for India in Parliament by Mr. Forwood, M.P., and the replies thereto, and asking that this Chamber should forward at the earliest possible moment intimation of any new regulations which the Indian Government might bring forward. In acknowledging receipt of this communication the Committee handed the Chamber of Shipping a copy of the letter they had addressed to the Bombay Government on the subject, and also expressed their willingness to communicate any information on the subject which they might receive. As arising from this correspondence Government had their attention called to the Procedure for publication of rules, affecting the general public, under Marine enactments. The question of the most effective mode of giving publicity to rules relating to the Mercantile Marine, issued under the Merchant Shipping and Indian Ports Act, &c. received the consideration of the Bombay Government during the year under review, in consequence of several representations having been made to Government pointing out that the procedure previously existing of publishing such rules only in the " Bombay Government Gazette " was insufficient for making the provisions of same generally known. His Excellency the Governor in Council accordingly decided that in future, all rules affecting the Mercantile Marine, published either provisionally or finally by Government, should, in addition to being published in the " Government Gazette," be freely distributed among shipowners, masters, and others concerned ; also that copies be sent to all shipping firms, the Chamber of Commerce, the Under-writers' Association and to all local marine bodies connected with shiping interests.

TRANSFER OF PROPERTY ACT, 1882.

The Secretary of the Bombay Law Society having handed to the Chamber copy of a representation which that Association had made to Government in May last asking for the repeal or amendment of section 136 of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, your Committee decided to support the representation as being in the interests of the mercantile community. Promising that the members of the Chamber were not competent to discuss the exact legal definition attached to the provisions, of the Act, either as regards the officers of Court concerned or the documents affected, the Committee did not presume to trouble Government with any remarks on the portions of the memorial defining these points ; but assuming that the Act would have the effect contemplated by the legal profession, they endorsed and supported paragraphs 10 to 15 of the memorial. In the opinion of the Committee it would not only be manifestly unfair to barristers, pleaders, attornies and other officers of Court to deprive them of the right of investment in certain securities enumerated in paragraph 4 of the memorial, but the consequence of such a law being in force might be most serious to future holders of of such instruments who might, without any fault on their own part, find themselves in the position of holding no good title to their investments. The Committee expressed their belief that the possible results of the Act were never contemplated by the legislature, and they felt confident therefore that the matter had only to be brought to the notice of Government to lead to the section objected to being repealed or amended.

AMENDMENT OF THE INDIAN STAMP ACT.

In the report for 1892 reference was made to a representation which the then Committee had addressed to the Government of India calling attention to the uncertainty which prevailed as to the manner in which adhesive stamps used on bills or contracts should be cancelled, and suggesting an alteration of the law so as to provide for a more definite mode of cancelment. In the reply received, under date of 24th March 1892, Government stated that the point had already been noted for consideration when the Indian Stamp Act was next amended. In October last, however, a Bill was introduced into the Supreme Legislative Council for the purpose of of amending the Act in question, but it was noticed that it had reference only to policies of sea-insurance and sale-certificates, and that no alteration in the law was recommended with respect to adhesive stamps. This being the case, the Committee of the Chamber lost no time in addressing the Government of India, calling their attention to the matter in the hope that they could see their way to the introduction into the Bill of a clause providing the required definition of cancelment. To this the Assistant Secretary, in the Department of Finance and Commerce, replied stating that the Chamber's suggestion had not been overlooked, but that as both the matters in respect of which the Stamp Act was being amended pressed for settlement in view to the removal of specific hardships, it was decided not to embody in the amending measure any other matters which would have involved delay ; and that the Chamber's proposals had, therefore, been held over, with several other amendments until the Act came under general revision. Subsequently, a copy of the amending Bill referred to with Statemement of Objects and Reasons, was received through the Government of Bombay with a request for an opinion on its provisions. The objects of the Bill being to assimilate the Stamp law of India respecting policies of sea-insurance to that enacted for the United Kingdom by the Stamp Act of 1891, and to determine the construction which is to be placed on Schedule 1, Article 16, of the Indian Stamp Act, 1879, read with Section 24 of that Act, in relation to sale-certificates,—alterations which, it was understood, met with general approval—the Committe replied stating that the proposed measure had the entire approval of the Chamber.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT OF THE INDIAN COMPANIES ACT, VI. OF 1882.

An Act of Parliament having been passed, under the title of the " Companies (Memorandum of Association) Act, 1890," giving further powers to Companies with respect to certain instruments under which they may be constituted or regulated, the Committee took the opportunity, in June last, of representing to the Government of India that an Act of similar purport would be of the greatest service in India where the difficulties which the English Act had been passed to meet, were of frequent occurrence. It was pointed out that the law in India, as it at present stood, made it impossible for a Company, registered under the Indian Companies' Act, to amend its Memorandum of Association or Deed of Settlement with respect to the object of the Company, without going into liquidation and recontructing the Company—a process involving not only considerable expense, but frequently one which endangered the well-being of the Company. The Committee accordingly suggested that the provisions of the English Act should be incorporated in any amending Bill which Government might deem desirable to bring forward for the purpose of placing the existing Indian Companies' Act on a better footing. The Committee up to tha time of writing their report, have received no definite reply from Government to their suggestion. But they are glad to find from a circular letter which has been addressed by the Department of Finance and Commerce to all Local Governments and Administrations, that the Governor-General in Council is of opinion that the amendment proposed would doubtless be useful ; but before passing final orders on the subject, the views of other mercantile communities and public bodies have been invited on the suggestion.

(*To be continued.*)

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said :—Gentlemen the annual report, which has been in your hands for several days, has been prepared by Mr. Marshall with his usual skill, and gives a clear and business-like statement of the various subjects which have occupied the attention of your committee during the year. It has been a period singularly barren in questions of importance, and therefore the report may appear to you a record of somewhat dull and uninteresting proceedings : still I trust you will look on it as a record of useful work. One question, however, of supreme importance came before us, namely, the currency legislation of the Government. The year was made memorable by the passing of the Currency Act on 26th June. It was apparent that the time had come when " something had to be done," and in framing their proposals the Government of India seem to have had two main objects in view—first, to satisfy the demands of that portion of the mercantile community, who assured them that the commerce of the country was ruinously affected by the fluctuations in the sterling value of the rupee ; and secondly, to save themselves from the financial ruin which they foresaw impending over them when the expected repeal of the Sherman Act in America should take place. Had the Bill been brought forward solely in the interests of trade, it would have provoked, I have no doubt, the most determined opposition on the part of many of us, for we are not all of the same mind as those representatives of commerce to whose counsels the Government hearkened. But as regards the financial difficulties which threatened the Government, there was, I think, practical unanimity both as to their existence and their gravity. The Act of the 26th June was a bold attempt to face these difficulties, and your committee accepted it without criticism as a great and momentous experiment. The principles of the Act were endorsed by an an able and representative committee, in whom we had great confidence. We believed that the object of Government could not be attained in a month, possibly not even in six months, that the experiment should be carried on for at least a whole year, so as to submit it to the action of all the varying economic forces of Indian trade, before a sound judgment could be formed on the efficacy of the measure. Holding these views, we ventured to interpose only once, last August, when the Secretary of State, after holding his hand for six weeks from selling Councils, suddenly abandoned his policy of delay, and let 12 lakhs go at the very dullest period of the export season. We then addressed the Government of India very briefly, pointing out that the sale had been made at an inopportune moment before the export season had begun. Other public bodies remonstrated about the same time, and the Secretary of State stayed his hand, and has sold practically no Councils from that day to this. The result of the measure must be exceedingly disappointing to its supporters. The rupee to-day is worth less than one and twopence. Ten months of the financial year have elapsed, and the undrawn balance of Councils amounts to the enormous sum of 12 millions sterling ; the Secretary of State to supply his immediate requirements had to borrow in the London market, and his borrowing powers being almost exhausted, has taken further powers for future emergencies. The stars in their courses seem to have fought against the Government. The export season hitherto has been dull and dragging : imports of merchandise in every important department have increased largely as compared with those of last year, while silver, in spite of the closing of the Mints, has continued to pour into the country in enormous quantities. In this connection I cannot help regarding it as a misfortune that at this critical time the Government of India have lost the services of Sir D. Barbour who from the first has been so closely identified with their currency policy. They have had to send all the way to New Zealand for his successor. I trust Mr. Westland is not going to prove the forerunner of Macaulay's New Zealander, come to survey the ruins of Indian finance. The imports of silver have naturally attracted much attention, because I imagine few anticipated that an enormous business would be done in that metal, when in consequence of the closing of the Mints it was reduced to the same position, so far as the public was concered, as the humbler metals, such as copper or iron. I am not aware of any authoritative explanation having been given as to what has become of the silver imported during the last few months ; but it seems to me reasonable to assume that a great deal of it has gone into hoads in exchange for rupees, and many hard words have been used as to the foolishness of the natives of India in exchanging good rupees for a depreciating metal. I am not at all sure that these strictures are just in view of the following considerations. Looking at the imports of treasure from 1846-47, when gold was first distingnished from silver in the statistics, I find that in only two years out of the 47 did the exports of gold exceed the imports : those years were 1878-79 and 1892-93. Of course the excess of the former year is explained by the disastrous famine of 1876-78. What is the explanation of the excess in 1892-93 ? Evidently the low exchange. In 1890-91, you will remember, exchange was high and ran up to between 1s. 8d. and 1s. 9d., in autumn ; and in that year the net imports of gold were the largest on record. In 1892-93 exchange ruled low, the average rate of Councils being 1s. 3d., the lowest on record, and there was a net export of gold of 281 lakhs. Now let us put ourselves in the position of the native who bought gold in 1890-91 at an average exchange of, say, 1s. 8d.; with Rs. 120 he bought ten soverigns, hoarded them, and in 1892-93, when exchange was at 1s. 3d., sold them for Rs. 160. Further, in 1893-94, when silver was at Rs. 90 per tola, he bought with his Rs. 160 178 tolas of silver, and his position now is that his Rs.120 or Rs. 120 tolahs of silver of 1890-91 have grown into 171 tolahs in three years, surely an attractive and by no means unreasonable investment for a man who, by hereditary instinct likes a hoard of bullion, and who probably concerns himself not at all with such complicated questions as arise from the closing of the Mints. Some authorities, impatient of the position, advocate a duty on imports of silver, and it seems very probable that there has been a good deal of speculative buying of silver on the chance of a duty being ultimately imposed. In my opinion Government have been well advised in not taking this step. Had it been part of the original scheme, recommended by the Government and endorsed by the Herschell Committee, few, I think, would have objected, but the imposition of a duty now, for the purpose of helping their currency scheme, would, it seems to me, indicate weakness, and distrust of their own measure, on the part of Government, which might lead to utter failure. It would also have had this disadvantage—a serious one in my opinion—that it would have prevented us from realising to what extent if any, silver imports have a permanent adverse effect on the experiment of Government. You, no doubt, observed Mr. Courtney's remarks on this subject the other day in the House of Commons on the third reading of the East India Loans Bill. His opinion is specially valuable, as he is the only member of the Herschell Committee who has publicly expressed any views on the question, so far as I am aware, since the publication of the Committee's report. He gave it as his opinion that the imposition of a duty would give a bonus to people who did not deserve it, would interfere with trade, and afford no considerable assistance to the Indian Government. In my opinion a duty on silver would give the final blow to the trade in exports from India to silver-using countries. I doubt if the Herschell Committee gave sufficient consideration to the effect of the closing of the Mints on this trade. They argued that if the gold price of commodities exported from these silver-using countries did not fall owing to the fall in the gold value of silver, they would realise a higher silver price, and China, for example, would then be able to pay a higher price for Bombay yarns. But such an equilibrium, although theoretically certain in the long run, if China must have Indian opium and yarn, takes time, and until it is effected, the Indian mills suffer. If a heavy import duty is imposed on silver the adjustment is postponed. With what success the Indian cotton mills will be able to tide over this trying time by opening up markets for their production in India itself remains to be seen. I have no doubt that the able and enterprising men at the head of these concerns will do all that is possible in that direction, and fortunately in their Japan trade they are helped at present by extraordinarily low freights. As I have said, we are in the dark as to what becomes of the silver imported during the last few months. How much of it is hoarded in the shape of bullion or ornaments; how much held speculatively by capitalists; how much is coined by the native mints: until we have light on these points, we cannot be satisfied that we have got to the bottom of one of the most important elements in the problem. I know that the inquiry, except as regards the native mints, is surrounded by difficulties, but only Government have the organisation suitable for obtaining the information if it can be obtained at all. I would, therefore, earnestly urge Government this inquiry in their own interest as well as ours; if they have any information already I would ask them to publish it. Surely they know exactly what is being done in the native mints. The action of these mints is attracting attention at home, and Sir J. Gorst asked the Under-Secretary for India the other day whether two small Native States were minting silver at the rate of 12 lakhs a day. The Under-Secretary replied that he had asked the Government of India for information. What information they supplied we do not know, but it seems to me a preposterous idea that any two native mints are coining at such a rate. The announcement made by the Secretary of State on the 20th January as to his future policy in dealing with Council Bills did not seem to your Committee to call for any action on their part. The policy seemed to me on the whole a sound one, provided that he sold firmly, and this I anticipated that he would do. With regard to the announcement itself I have only two remarks to make. If it was necessary to make it at all, it might have been more carefully expressed so as to preclude the possibility of more than one construction being put upon it. Opinion was divided as to its meaning, some holding that it indicated that the Secretary of State would sell at market rates whatever they might be, while others believed that he would not follow the rapid decline which followed the announcement. My other remark is this. The reference in the announcement to the export season having now begun is somewhat misleading. It is true the busiest export season in Bombay and Burmah is now beginning, but, on the other hand, the season for several of the most important crops in Bengal, such as jute, indigo, and tea, is practically over, and these crops were financed without recourse to the Secretary of State. We are no longer in the dark as to the Secretary of State's policy. Sir William Harcourt stated in the House of Commons last night that Government had no intention of reverting to a fixed minimum for Council drafts. I am very much afraid that this policy of meeting the market will lead to a further fall in exchange. The fall that followed the announcement of 20th January seems to have been caused, to some extent at least, by an expectation on the part of the Banks that Councils would be let go at market rates, and I am afraid of a repetition of this downward movement. On the other hand, if he now held for a moderate minimum, I think it probable that he would get it, and might even succeed in forcing it up during the present export season. The crops must be financed, and looking to the position of the money markets in India, I do not see where the money is to come from except by the purchase of Council Bills. At the same time I admit the Secretary of State has good authority for his policy. You have no doubt observed in yesterday's newspapers that Sir David Barbour is reported to be in favour of meeting the market, with the qualification that some discretion should of course be used. I cannot reconcile this expression of opinion with the belief that seems to be widely held, that in this matter the Secretary of State is acting in direct opposition to the views of the Government of India. If there is an authoritative exponent of these views, it is surely Sir David Barbour. I hope the Government will have the courage to go on with their experiment until it has been thoroughly tried, in spite of the low level which exchange has reached and the serious deficit which is now threatening them. Had they not embarked on their currency experiment they would probably by this time have had to face a more serious deficit, and when they did embark on it, they must have contemplated the possibility of at least temporary failure and consequent loss. They have already to face a loss, and will have to provide for it; but if at this time of day they falter and change their policy, all their labour and anxiety, as well as their money, will have been wasted on a partially tried experiment which will have taught them nothing. With these remarks I now leave these extremely difficult and complicated question. I need not occupy your time by referring at length to the arrangement between Government and the Exchange Banks with regard to the disposal of the silver in transit to India at the passing of the Currency Act last June, as the matter has been fully dealt with in the Committee's report. In connection with this matter I would only say, that in my opinion the solution of the difficulty would have been facilitated had Government distinguished more clearly between speculation on the part of the Banks and speculation on the part of their customers, and I also think that Government made too much of the fact that the main features of the recommendations of the Herschell Committee were published in a German newspaper before the report was published. Everybody was guessing what these recommendations were going to be, and it would have been strange had nobody guessed right. You will observe that we have recommended Government to pass an Act similar to the English Companies (Memorandum of Association.) Act of 1890. The object of the Act is to enable a Company to alter the provisions of its Memorandum of Association with respect to the objects of the company without having to go through the tedious and expensive process of liquidation. The Act carefully provides for the protection of the shareholders and creditors. The alteration must be passed by special resolution and confirmed on petition by the Court, and before confirming the alteration the Court must be satisfied that the interest of shareholders, debenture holders and creditors are duly protected. Further it is to be observed that the memorandum of agreement can only be altered with respect to the object of the Company so far as may be required in order to enable it to do one or more of five things—(1) to carry on its business more economically and efficiently; (2) to attain its main purpose by new or improved means; (3) to enlarge or change the local area of its operations; (4) to carry on some business which under existing circumstances may advantageously be combined with the business of the Company; and (5) to restrict or abandon any of the subjects specified in the Memorandum of Association. I think you will all agree with your Committee that a similar Act in India would be a useful and welcome addition to the statute book. Our thanks are due to those members who so efficiently represent the Chamber in the Municipal Corporation and the Port Trust. So indispensable are they on the Corporation, that I observe consideration of an important measure was postponed at the Corporation the other day owing to the absence of one of our representatives in England. But it is with the Port Trust that as merchants, we are more immediately concerned, and it is a body of which the city is justly proud. The aim of its officials, from the Chairman downwards, is to further the interests of the mercantile community, and one has only to look at their docks, bunders, and other properties to see what immense benefits it has conferred on Bombay. At present the Trustees are engaged in opening up their property in Mazagon and northward by means of a network of roads, which will facilitate transport in that important district from the docks and bunders. The construction of the overbridge at Wari Bunder, which is so urgently required, is still delayed pending the result of negotiations with the Municipality, for the construction at their expense of a road from the bridge through Mazagon to join the Port Trust roads. I trust that the negotiations will soon be brought to a satisfactory conclusion. As regards overbridge in other parts of the town, nothinig is being done apparently, and the Charni Road level-crossing, to which my predecessor alluded last year, is as great a nuisance as ever. I would add that the railway traffic alongside the Queen's Road might be conducted with more regard to the convenience and safety of that unfortunate portion of the community, who morning and evening have to drive along that crowded thoroughfare, which seems to get more and more crowded every day. With regard to our finances you will observe that although our expenses are rather less than last year, and subscriptions and payments for our publications keep up satisfactorily, we are trenching on our reserve to a considerable extent. The falling off in measurement fees is accountable for the deficit. These are bound to improve with the trade of the port, and it is fortunate that we have such a substantial reserve to fall back upon in a year of reduced income. As your representative in the Governor's Council, the account of my stewardship is necessarily brief: only one Bill was discussed and passed, and the principle of the Bill, which I supported, had, I believe, your unanimous appreval. I beg to tender my crodial thanks to the members of the Outgoing Committee and to the Secretary and Assistant Secretary for the help which they have always given me, and to you, gentlemen, for the great honour you paid me by electing me your representative in the Governor's Council, and by re-electing me your chairman for another year. I conclude by moving the adoption of the report.

The Hon. Mr. L. R. W. Forrest, in seconding the adoption of the report, said: Gentlemen,—I rise to second the adoption of the report. As the committee remark, there have not been many interesting questions to discuss during the past year, and that all absorbing subject of interest—the Currency question—they appear to have felt themselves precluded from discussing except on one solitary occasion, when to the surprise of some of their friends they telegraphed about the middle of August to the Supreme Government about the sale of Council Bills. I have no doubt that they felt at the time they were expressing the sentiments of a large portion of the mercantile community, but whenever the action of Government is discussed it must be remembered that they, the Government, acted in accordance with that sentiment. I think it will be found that the Select Committee have done useful work in their criticisms on the Indian Merchant Shipping Bill, and on the Draft Rule under the Native Passenger Act. On behalf of the shipping interests, I wish to thank the Committee for the great assistance they gave us in obtaining a suspension of the Rules under the Deck and Load Line Act, and to express our obligation to his Excellency the Governer in Council for having so promptly acceded to the representations made to him on the subject, and for having arranged to give greater publicity to the Rules issued under the Merchant Shipping and Indian Ports Acts. It has since been found that vessels marked at home under the Board of Trade Rules are not subject to the rules of the Indian Deck and Load Lines Act, and he shall, therefore, not need to trouble the Committee of this Chamber to further discuss the question. I hope to be pardoned for touching on my favourite subject—Railway extension—but I must express my regret that another annual meeting has taken place wtihout anything having been done with the Feeder Lines in Guzerat. There are two of them, the Ahmedabad and Prantej and the Surat and Nundobar, which as far as statistics can prove anything are certain to return 6 per cent., and yet the Parent Line and the Government of India are unable to come to terms about their construction. Years roll by, and these promising remunerative public works are untouched. I trust the new committee will again address Government on the subject. We must congratulate ourselves that under the New Rules of the Indian Councils Act of 1892 the Chamber has the honour of selecting a person for submission to H. E. the Governor as an additional member of the Legislative Council. It is an honour, I am sure, in all value. Your representatives in the Port Trust will, I feel certain, allow me to express their satisfaction with the manner in which the Chairman of the Port Trust seeks to improve the facilities to the import and export trade of the Port. He is now endeavouring to increase the direct shipments of produce. He is fertile in ideas and has shown originality in suggesting new schemes, the result of which will soon be made known to you. You will all be glad to hear the revenues of the Port Trust are increasing, thanks chiefly to the import trade, which has so adversely affected exchange, but all our crops promise well, and there is no reason to fear that the receipts from the export trade will be less than last year. If Exchange steadies, we shall no doubt have an increased demand from Europe befor long for all our produce.

The resolution was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

Mr. George Cotton said that it was his pleasing duty to propose the thanks of the meeting to the chairman, deputy chairman and the out-going committee. He was quite sure that it did not require any words from him to commend the motion to their hearty approval. He was inclined to think that they would be unwilling to give their thanks to the chairman by a mere silent vote. He had always thought that Indian Chambers of Commerce would have special position regarding the Chambers of Commerce in other parts of the world, because the former had to consider not only the questions of more than ordinary importance that arose always in connection with the firms they represented, and with reference to mercantile questions in general, but they had also to consider questions affecting the Imperial Government and Local Government, and of the various administrations in India, and very often to give advise and make suggestions to Government. Some time or the other they had to consider measures passed by the Legislative Council or in regard to changes made in the various administrations, such as Post Office or other department not connected with with the Chambers. It was a matter of great pride that this Chamber by the advise and by the careful suggestion and by the judicious opinion won great respect and that confidence from Government that enabled them to be considered, as it were, a representative body. He thought that they had to be very grateful to the Committee for the work they had done during the past year as it was evidenced from the report—somewhat evinced by the report. He said somewhat evinced by the report, because it contained only a summary of their decisions, but it did not give them even a very faint idea concerning their labour and the inexhaustible skill used in arriving at the decisions. He was sure that the members would cordially approve of what their committee had done during the last year. They could be very proud to have such members on the committee who were the busiest men in Bombay, and who met once a week, not only to do the work of the Chambers, but were also willing to consider and give up their precious time to the various questions that were placed before them in the form of papers which they had not only to consider, but to write laboured minutes upon them. There was one point which required special mention. It was with reference to the position which the Chamber of Commerce had taken up regarding the silver question. That there was a great difference between the members of this Chamber, and they had wisely resisted all temptation to offer any opinion on the subject. He had noticed the other day, when the Chamber presented an address to the Viceroy, they were most judicious and most wise in not expressing any opinion whatever. There was one thing which he begged to suggest to the new committee, or to throw it out as suggestion. They would have shortly had the budget which would most likely bring surprises to most of them, and the suggestion which he would make to the chairman and the new committee was, that a meeting of this Chamber might be called to consider the budget immediately after it had been published. He felt that there must be many important questions which it should be wise for this Chamber to consider before it was too late. He was quite sure that it did not require a lengthy speech at all to commend the resolution to them, but he felt that it would not do to pass a silent vote. He, therefore, again begged to read the resolution, that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the chairman, deputy chairman and the committee. of course, he meant the secretary to be included as otherwise he would have to add the name of the secretary in the motion.

Mr. O'Callgahan, in seconding the proposition, sad that their thanks were due to the chairman and the out-going committee, and after what Mr. Cotton had said it was not necessary for him to speak much with regard to the motion. He had referred especially to the position of the Chamber, and its influence in all matters connected with the mercantile business which were acknowledged by all in the country and both the Imperial and the Local Governments He did not think that he could add anything to what Mr. Cotton had already said.

The proposition was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Clement Poole was appointed an auditor for the ensuing year.

The members of the out-going Committee were re-elected as members for the ensuing year.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman, on the motion of Mr. Cotton, for his able speech on the silver question.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Mr. Hildebrand, Superintendent of the Shan States, takes leave shortly, on account of illness. Mr. Leveson, Assistant Superintendent, will officiate.

The Burma Championship, with the National Rifle Association Medal, has been won by Sergeant Light, Wiltshire Regiment, with 167: Lieutenant Rigby, Wiltshire, being second with 167. The Native Championship was won by Drummer Martin, 26th Madras Infantry, with 172.

Reports from the Frontier state that the Amir anticipates no trouble from Herat for some time. Although no reports have been received, it is considered probable that the Amir left Kabul, as he intended, on the 26th of last month. He may, however, have postponed his visit for a short time owing to the scarcity in Jelallabad.

The golf craze in Colombo has risen to the magnitude of a public annoyance, says a contemporary. People walking down the seaside walk at the Galle Face, complain of being struck by golf balls, which is dangerous; but the most extraordinary thing about it is, adds the local paper, that the offenders never seem to feel called upon to apologise for their behavour.

The Ministerial organ *El Moaiad* publishes the following speech addressed by El Ghazi Mukhtar Pasha, the Turkish Commissioner, on the 23rd December, to the 2nd Egyptian Infantry Regiment at Wady Halfa: "I have been eight years in Egypt and have heard much of the new organization of the Imperial Egyptian army, but to-day have I been able to verify the assertions. I find that the reality surpasses my expectations. This is doubtless the result of the efforts of its officers, and I congratulate them and also the non-commissioned officers on their splendid work. I must at the same time compliment the Kaimakan Macdonald, who commands your regiment. I promise to report to his Highness the Khedive my favourable impressions."

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON OPIUM.

THIRD SITTING IN BOMBAY.

The Royal Commission on Opium resumed its sittings in Bombay yesterday morning at 11 o'clock, Lord Brassey presiding. The other Commissioners present were: Sir William Roberts, Sir James Lyall, Mr. J. H. Wilson, M.P., Mr. Mowbray, M.P., Mr. Pease, Mr. Fanshawe, Mr. Haridas Veharidas. There were also present: Mr. Hewitt, the secretary, Mr. Alexander, of the Anti-Opium Alliance, and Mr. Dane, representing the Government of India. There was a somewhat larger attendance of the general public than on the two previous days.

THE FAMOUS ANTI-OPIUM PETITION.

The first witness called was Mr. R. F. Horne, of the Bombay Anti-Opium Alliance, who made the following statement:—

I am honorary secretary to the Bombay Anti-Opium Alliance. The Alliance was inaugurated at a public meeting presided over by Dr. Milne, Bishop of Bombay, held in the Framji Cowasji Hall, Bombay, on the evening of April 10th, 1891, to support the resolution of Sir Joseph Pease, which was brought before the House of Commons the same night. The Bishop of Bombay became the President of the Alliance, and at the fifth Committee meeting of the Alliance, held on July 6th, 1891, the suggestion was approved of having an anti-opium petition drawn up and circulated for signature among medical men only. The only medical man on the Committee of the Alliance was Dr. Rustom Ranina, and he and I together drew up a draft of the petition, which was read at the next Committee meeting. The Committee made a few suggestions whereby the petition could be improved, and appointed Dr. Ranina, Mrs. Dyer (also one of the Committee), and myself to revise the petition. This was done, and at the next meeting of the Alliance Committee, held on September 9, 1891, the petition was approved, and Dr. Ranina and myself were authorised to take the necessary measures to have it circulated for signature. To do this the petition was printed on foolscap paper, with space for signatures to be written. All the copies that were printed were not used, and those you now have are a few of those that remained over. The bill for the printing of these was paid by the Rev. R. M. Gray, Treasurer of the Alliance. I will now explain to you the way in which the petition was circulated among the doctors for signature. (Printed copy of the petition, with signatures, now handed to the members of the Commission.) The second signature that appears is that of Dr. Ardesir Dadabhoy Mody, of Grant Road. I called upon Dr. Mody to ask him to sign the petition, and he signed it in my presence. This is the only signature that I am personally responsible for. Dr. Ranina called personally upon Dr. J. Gerson da Cunha, whose name appears third on the printed petition, and he signed in Dr. Ranina's presence. I believe Dr. Ranina called personally upon more than one of those who signed, but neither Dr. Ranina nor myself had time to permit of our calling personally upon all the doctors in Bombay, with the possibility of having to call more than once before finding them at home, so we drafted a letter, which read as follows (original produced):—

Dear Dr.——

Herewith I send you a petition to the House of Commons dealing with the opium question. At the present juncture the Anti-Opium party in England are looking for expressions of opinion from India, and this petition presents an opportunity for you to help forward a movement which is on the side of truth and justice.

Trusting you will add your signature to the paper, and thus shew your symphy with the multitudes in this country, who are already victims to the use of opium, and extend to them this helping hand.—I remain, Yours Sincerely,

Francis P. Horne,
Honorary Secretary.

The name for the doctor was left blank, that it might be written in. I then procured a peon to carry the petition and the letter round to the doctors, promising to give him Rs. 8 for the work. I quote from two letters of Dr. Ranina to me bearing on the subject (letters produced):—

14-10-91. "Your peon is quite exorbitant in his demand. He would not have anything under Rs. 10 for the petty work. I should not pay more than Rs 5. If he does not come round we had better look out for another man.

16-10-1891. "I have at last engaged the man for Rs. 8 for the whole job.

I sent the peon to Dr. Ranina and paid the Rs. 8 for his work, but the entire work of sending the peon round to the medical men was done by Dr. Ranina, who also filled in the doctor's names on the printed letter. When the time came for the petition to be forwarded to London, Dr. Ranina sent me the separate printed petition sheets with one, two, three, four or more signatures on each, as the case might be. I remember looking over the autograph signatures, and they had every appearance of being genuine. At this point, to fulfil the rules laid down by Parliament in reference to petitions, it was necessary for us to have one or two signatures upon the written heading. Two names were thus written—Dr. Atmaram Pandurang and Dr. Ardesir Dadabhoy Mody. Dr. Mody signed in my presence. Concerning the signature of Dr. Atmaram Pandurang, I quote the following from a letter of Dr. Ranina to me (letter produced):—

There was room for only one signature above that of Dr. Mody, so I have got the first man to resign. If you want a signature on the right hand side, I can get the second man to sign there, if you can send back the petition before 12 noon.

THE PETITION SENT TO LONDON.

From the above it is plain that Dr. Atmaram Pandurang signed a copy of the printed petition and afterwards signed on the written petition. One signature on the written petition is all that the rules of the House of Commons require, but I have shewn that we had two names, and Dr. Ranina shews that we could have obtained a third. The mail for England only leaves Bombay once a week, and we wished to avoid a further delay, and so, having two names, we had no object in getting a third if so doing would cause a week's delay, which we wished to avoid. As secretary to the Alliance I saw that the signatures were fixed to the written petition, and that the petition was posted to London to Anti-Opium workers there. It reached them safely, and before being presented to Parliament it was copied together with the signatures. Our friends in London had the petition printed in the *Anti-Opium News*, dated September 15th, 1892, and it was printed in a pamphlet, entitled "An Indian Woman's Impeachment of the Opium Crime of the British Government." The petition was mentioned in the *Bombay Guardian*, January 21st, 1893, page 3, when the portraits of Dr. Atmaram Pandurang and Dr. Khory were reproduced. This page of the *Guardian* was on the *Bombay Guardian* notice board, outside the gate of the *Bombay Guardian* premises for one week, where it could be read by passers by. I have shown that every means was taken to give publicity to the petition after it had been presented to Parliament. Nine months after the portraits of Dr. Atmaram Pandurang and Dr. Khory appeared in the *Guardian* the illuminated petition was issued as a supplement to the *Bombay Guardian*, on October 14th, 1893, and in the *Banner of Asia* for November 1893. On November 14th the leading Bombay daily paper published a list of 13 doctors, who were represented as either denying their signatures to the petition or in some way qualifying them. On November 27 and November 28 further lists of doctors were given, and a long leading article on the alleged "Anti-Opium Fraud." From it I read: "The communication which we publish to-day practically completes the disavowals one by one of the petition by those who are represented as having signed it." I now comment upon a few of the extracts from the *Times of India* and letters from the doctors to myself, which for convenience in comparing, I have arranged side by side.

In the course of the reading of the statement the president remarked that the petition was brought before them in London. He asked Mr. Horne if Dr. Ranina was to be called to make his statement.

Mr. Horne: He is ready to make a statement if asked to come forward.

MR. HORNE EXPLAINS.

In reply to the president, Mr. Horne said he made his statement in consequence of the denials of having signed the petitions which had been made by some of the medical men in question in the columns of a local daily. These statements were on the printed sheets which had been handed round the table.

Lord Brassey: It seems to me that if there are persons desirous of making a complaint before this Commission, and if they had been heard, we should have said you who were concerned in getting up the petition should come here to make an explanation. But the authenticity or otherwise of the document has not at present been raised. You are anticipating what may be said.

Mr. Horne: I am here because the public press has described the petition as the anti-opium fraud.

Lord Brassey: You are here then in answer to what has appeared in the public press?

Mr. Horne: No, sir. I am here because I understood that the petition has been mentioned before the Commission once or twice previously, and it is known to the Commission that the document has been called in question. I am here therefore to defend it.

Lord Brassey: I am not aware of the petition having been mentioned before us.

Mr. Wilson: Mr. Horne is here because Mr. Alexander asked him to come.

Lord Brassey: Very well, you had better proceed, Mr. Horne.

Having concluded the statement given above, Mr. Horne was proceeding to read the statements the of the doctors who had disclaimed signing the petition, had made and his own observations thereon, when Mr. Mowbray said: I am anxious that Mr. Horne should be allowed to make a statement of whatever comes within his own personal knowledge as to the petition. But I should like to say at this stage that I think that as the gentlemen who have disclaimed the petition are all resident in Bombay, the best course would be to invite them to appear before the Commission, and state whether they signed it or not.

The president (looking at the long printed statement as to the denial of the signatories). This is a very long story, Mr. Horne. It is before us for the perusal of everyone interested, and we shall have an opportunity of hearing some of these gentlemen themselves. I do not think, therefore, it is necessary for you to read the statement.

Mr. Horne: you will see, sir, that the statements on the right hand side of the parallel columns consist of letters I have received from the medical gentlemen in answer to a printed letter I sent to each of them asking them whether the statements made in the public press that they had denied the signatures were correct. That should be taken as a personal statement.

The president ordered the room to be cleared for the purpose of enabling the Commission to consider whether Mr. Horne should be allowed to continue his statement at the present stage.

After the Commission had consulted in private for a quarter of an hour the public were re-admitted.

CROSS-EXAMINATION.

The president, addressing Mr. Horne, said: It is the opinion of the Commission that you should not carry your statement any further at present, and we will insert in the appendix the papers you have placed in our hands in reference to the original document and the letters to you and your replies to them. Our opinion is that nothing has been brought before us which in the least leads us to call in question the *bona fides* of your personal action in this matter. As I understand there may possibly be further consultation between yourself and two members of the Commission, and possibly that may result in your coming before us again, and we don't wish to carry the matter further to-day. One or two members of the Commission, however, wish to ask you questions upon what you have already stated.

In answer to Mr. Mowbray, witness continuing, said: Dr. Ardeshir Dadabhoy Mody had signed the original petition in my presence. The original petition was a written one.

Mr. Mowbray: Did Dr. Mody sign the original petition in anybody's presence?—Yes, he signed it in my presence.

Mr. Mowbray: Did he sign the second petition also in your presence?—No; he did not sign the second petition at all. I do not say that he signed twice.

Mr. Mowbray: Did Dr. Atmaram sign in your presence?—No; Dr. Atmaram did not sign the petition in my presence. I do not know in whose presence he signed.

Mr. Mowbray: I understand then that the only man who signed in your presence was Dr. Mody; is that so?—Yes; it is so.

Mr. Fanshawe: How many copies of the petition were sent round?—I do not know that.

Mr. Fanshawe: Who has signed twice?—I believe Dr. Atmaram has signed twice.

Mr. Fanshawe: What was the petition like?—It was just like what I hold in my hand.

Mr. Faanshawe: You have told us that there were numerous cases of opium-poisoning arising from giving the drug to children. Had you any statistics to establish it?—(After a pause.) I have heard of many such instances, but I cannot recall them just at this moment. We had got information of that kind.

Mr. Fanshawe: Have you made any special enquiry on that subject?—My impression is that we had not made any special enquiry about it; we did not deem it necessary to make special enquiry.

SELLING WIVES AND CHILDREN FOR OPIUM.

In reply to Mr. Fanshawe, witness further said that he was aware of many examples of opium-consumers selling their wives and children to get opium. Such examples were not infrequent. He had visited several dens where he had seen such persons. He went round to get information about opium-eaters selling their wives and children to gratify their vice of opium eating. They preferred any evil to their supply of opium being cut down. Witness had conversation with an opium-smoker in the den, and that man volunteered a statement that he had sold his wife for Rs. 20 in order to get opium.

Mr. Fanshawe: Did anybody verify that fact?—I am not aware of any further investigation on the point.

Mr. Fanshawe: To the ordinary reader such language as you use would convey the idea that these cases were rather common?—Witness (after a pause): Perhaps so.

In reply to Sir William Roberts, witness said that he had no reason to suspect the peon whom he had sent round to get signatures to the petition. His impression was that nobody would have signed the petition without reading it, having regard to the character of the document. His opinion was that if the signatories read the letter, which he had sent round with the petition, before they put their signatures to it, they must have known full well the character of the petition.

In reply to Mr. Pease, witness said he was told that the peon had left Bombay.

Mr. Fanshawe: What was the number of signatures; was it 40?—I believe the number was 49.

Mr. Fanshawe: Will you tell us how many doctors there are in Bombay?—I really don't know that. The peon must have gone to many doctors.

Mr. Fanshawe: How many letters were sent round by the peon?—I think 100 letters in all were sent round. I believe I first sent 50 letters, and on the second occasion I sent a similar number.

THE ENQUIRIES AS TO THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE PETITION.

Mr. J. M. Campbell, C.I.E., Collector of Customs, was re-called, and, in reply to the president, said: My attention was drawn to the subject of this petition by a letter which appeared in the *Times of India*, dated the 28th October, 1893, under the signature of Mr. Robinson, giving the list of the signers, amongst whom was the name of Dr. Gerson Da Cunah, with whom I was personally acquainted. When I met Dr. Cunah I asked him in regard to his signature to the petition, and also his views about opium. Dr. Cunah denied having signed the petition. This induced me to make enquiries about other signatures. Accordingly, I issued a circular, and sent round my Inspector to the other signers—as many as he could find—to enquire whether they had signed the petition or not. I have received replies to the circular. Out of 44 alleged signatures three admitted their signatures and accepted the views. Five admitted their signatures, but repudiated the views. Six stated they signed without reading the petition. Two stated that if they signed it, it was under a misapprehension. Two others stated that if they signed, it was under a misrepresentatson. Two more said that they signed something else. Eighteen did not remember signing it at all. Six others stated that they did not sign it.

One of the alleged signatories, Dr. Khory, who was in England at the time the circular was issued, also repudiated the signature. Dr. Gerson Da Cunha never signed the petition, nor did he agree with the views in the petition. He told me that opium was administered even to children with good results. As regards the genuineness or otherwise of the petition, it is, I think, very remarkable. The fact that Dr. Gerson Da Cunha and Dr. Khory, who repudiate their signatures, appeared on the petition, might induce others to add their names to it. Two of the doctors openly state that they put their signatures to something else than the petition, and the other alleged signatories hint the same explanation. Dr. Ranina, who was connected with the getting up of the first petition, refused to sign it in the present form. Dr. Seervai, a dentist, supports this, and he says that he was asked to put his signature on a paper: not on the petition.

The president: You have told us the views of the siguntories as given in their own writing in the book you have before you. Are they same as those which appeared in the *Times of India*?—They are the same.

ALLEGED OFFICIAL REPLIES TO INTERROGATIONS.

Mr. Campbell continued: Mrs. Dyer wrote a letter which appeared in the *Times of India* on the 9th of January last, and Mr. Horne also stated in the *Bombay Gazette*, of the same date, that official pressure was brought to bear on the signers to repudiate their signatures. The *Times of India* sent round one of their representatives to ascertain the truth of the statement made in the letter. The thirty-six signers out of the forty in Bombay at the time unanimously denied that any official pressure was brought to bear upon them. Dr. Khory, who was then away from Bombay, has since stated that no pressure was used.

Mr. Wilson: You have told us of the statements which appeared in the *Times of India*. Were they sent by you?—No; they were not sent by me. I sent round my Inspector with a circular to find out whether the statement was true.

Mr. Wilson: What is the name of your Inspector?—Mr. Rustim Pestonjee.

Mr. Pease: Have you ever heard of any gentlemen connected with a public department sending round as Government official to those who had signed a petition to the House of Commons to make enquiries about that petition?—No; I have never heard of any such instance.

Mr. Pease: Then, this is the first instance in which, so far as you know, a Government official was sent round by the head of a public department to make enquiries in connection with a subject with which it was most concerned?—Yes; this is the first instance; but at the same time this is the first instance in which such a petition was prepared.

A QUESTION OF OFFICIAL ETHICS.

Mr. Wilson: Was it then part of your official duty to institute enquiries with regard to this petition to the House of Commons?—Yes; I consider it was a part of my duty to know whether the statements were true and to get information about them.

Mr. Wilson: Then you state that it was the only case in which such investigations were made?—Yes, because this was the only case in which a petition of the kind was signed.

Sir James Lyall: Then it was in view of what Dr. Da Cunah said that you were led to make these enquiries?

Sir James Lyall: And how did you happen to ask Dr. Gerson da Cunha about it?—I wanted to see Dr. da Cunha in consequence of the letter of Mr. Robinson, who was then in Poona, and who is a very respectable and independent man. When I next saw Dr. da Cunha I asked him about it. Mr. Robinson said that he was long undecided in his opinion as to whether opium produced good or evil results. But he formed a decided opinion after reading the views of the leading medical practitioners in Bombay that opium was used for medicinal purposes with beneficial effects.

Mr. Pease: Will you give us a copy of Mr. Robinson's letter. It is not with me just now. Mr. Robinson had become firm in his opinion after reading the petition from the medical practitioners in Bombay of great experience and views.

A copy of Mr. Robinson's letter was afterwards handed to Mr. Wilson.

THE PRESIDENT OF A MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Dr. R. N. Khory, M.D., M.R.C.P., London, President, Grant College Medical Society, stated:—My observations are applicable to the city of Bombay and the island of Salsette, and apply to all the races found therein, but chiefly to Musalmans. My impression is that four per mille of my patients use opium. Its moral effects when used in moderation, are mainly negative. It does not make a criminal of the consumer, nor a bad father, husband, or relative. Its positive effects are to make the consumer cowardly and indifferent, and easily duped. It does not interfere with digestion and assimilation, it does not produce wasting, it dose not impair procreative powers of bodily activity, it does not depress, except temporarily, it dose not shorten life. It gives good sleep, enables fatigue to be borne, deadens flying pains, craving for food, increases endurance, keeps the consumer lively and of equable temper. It acts as an aphrodisiac. The physical effects of abuse are to interfere with digestion and assimilation, to lower the general tone of the system, to produce languor, lassitude, depression of spirits, and ultimately wasting. The moral effects are to make the consumer careless and apathetic, and incapable of managing his own affairs. To satisfy his craving he may resort to petty thefts or cheating. Having stated the methods of consumption and the effects of the drug in each, witness continued: Opium is used as a prophylatic in malarial diseases, diabetes, enteric diarrhœa, cholera, and dysentery, rheumatic pains and some nervous headaches. Its habitual use checks the recurrence as well as the onset of fever, diarrhœa and dysentery. In cholera epidemics it is useful by acting on the mind of the consumer, and checking indigestion and diarrhœa. I have known cases in families in which there was a hereditary history of diabetes, where the disease was averted by the habitual use of opium. Opium and alcohol taken in moderation are similar in their effects. Alcohol in excess makes the consumer an active danger to himself and others, but the consequences of excessive consumption of opium are not so much of an aggressive character. So far as society is concerned it is passive in its effects. It is difficult, but not impossible, to give up the opium habit. Those who give it up are likely to resort to other drugs as tabacco, ganja, alcohol, and probably in excess. There are instances in which by gradual increase an amazing quantity of opium can be taken with impunity. I have seen more athan one case in which between 20 and 30 grains of opium have been consumed habitually without injurious effects. It is not accumulative poison. When taken frequently, and for a long time, its effects are not diminished, and it is, therefore not necessary to take it in increased doses. In a warm country like India opium is better tolerated, and is perhaps required. Children bear opium worse than adults; females resort to it less than males.

NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE PETITION.

In answer to the president, the witness denied having signed the petition to which reference had been made. A long time ago a friend came to him and asked whether he had any objection to give his photo. for publication in reference to the anti-opium movement, as the photos. of leading medical men in Bombay were required. He was further told that his opinion on opium would soon after be required. As witness was busy then his friend went away and called afterwards for the photo. He afterwards left Bombay for London, and when there attended a soiree of the Indian Association, where he saw a number of gentlemen signing a petition against opium. Upon making enquiries of them as to the reason they were signing, the gentlemen in question replied because we have been asked to sign it. Witness said: That is very funny, if you think opium should be put a stop to, what about alcohol? They replied: of course, alcohol ought to be put a stop to before opium Witness said: Then why do you sign this; you are signing a document which may perhaps go against us. He then left and the day afterwards had occasion to see Sir John Birdwood, who called his attention to the fact that a petition had been presented to the House of Commons from the medical gentlemen of Bombay, and that his name was amongst the alleged signatories. He told Sir John Birdwood he had not signed the petition, and he sent a letter to the London *Times* denying having done so. He afterwards returned to Bombay, and his attention was called to the allegation that he had signed a petition against opium, but he was certain he had not done so.

In reply to Mr Pease, witness said he did not know what the views of Dr. Ranina (the friend who asked for his photo) were when he called upon him to make the request.

Answering Mr. Mowbray, witness said he did not agree with the opinions expressed in the petition.

In answer to Mr. Pease witness said that he was aware on his return to Bombay, in October, that his name had appeared amongst the list of alleged signatories of the petition, but he took no active steps to deny doing so until Mr Rustom called upon him. He could not say whether he had denied it in private or not.

Questioned by Mr. Wilson, witness said that Mr. Home in answer to a letter from him, had sent him a printed copy of the petition with signatures, asking for its return. Witness did not return the copy neither did he write to Mr. Home repudiating the signature.

To the President, I do not consider the use of opium should be restricted to medicinal purposes.

OPIUM FIRST TAKEN FOR SOME AILMENT.

Dr. J. Gerson da Cunha, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., &c., medical practitioner, Bombay, stated: My observations are applicable to the city of Bombay, and to the Hindu and Musalman races. The effect of the use of opium, unless prescribed medicinally, is; in my humble opinion, baneful to the moral and physical condition of the user, both in its use and abuse. The method of consumption observed by me is that of taking it in the form of pills, and its effects I have mentioned above. I have no idea that opium is used as a prophylactic by any of my patients. The use of opium habitually by the natives leads to consequences as serious as those which follow the use of alcohol. They are both pernicious, opium especially so. Alcohol is taken often for mere pleasure, opium always for some ailment, at least at the beginning. I believe it is difficult for an opium-consumer to give up the habit, but do not know if it results in the use or abuse of other drugs or of alcohol. The effect of the habitual use of opium is injurious to the mental faculties, although it may not interfere with the consumer's ability to conduct his business successfully, if he uses the drug moderately.

THE DOCTOR'S MODE OF SIGNATURE.

Answering Sir William Roberts, the witness said that in 1882 he had published his views on opium. He did not think a man of religious principle would take either alcohol or opium in any quantity. Opium was often taken as a salve to the conscience, in the same way as alcohol.

The President: You would desire to have the same restrictions placed on the use of alcohol as on opium?—Yes.

By Mr. Fanshawe: I have no recollection of having signed the medical petition that has been referred to. I never sign my name "J. G. da Cunha," the way represented on the printed copy of the petition; I always sign in full "J. Gerson da Cunha."

By Mr. Mowbray: The petition does not coincide with the wiews I hold on the opium question.

In answer to Mr. Pease, witness could not say whether or not he had confidence in Dr. Ranina's word. He wrote his signature very plainly, and did not think that the copyists of the petition in England put the initial "G," because they could not make out the name. "Gerson" was a Portuguese, German, French, and English name, and was well known.

Dr. Mesta was called and denied having signed the petition with the terms of which he disagreed. He could suggest no way by which his name got on the list.

Dr. M. E. Madon, Dobie Talao, gave similar evidence.

A STIMULANT AND TONIC.

Dr. J. C. Lisboa, G.G.M.C., Bombay, said. My experience on opium-eating does not extend to beyond Bombay and Poona. This drug when taken in moderate doses acts as a stimulant and tonic. It is used by many brokers and merchants who lead a life of incessant toil and mental activity as well as physical energy to work. The Chinese, who eat opium, are hard-workers and endure fatigue more easily than Indians and Europeans. Opium induces sound sleep, and the opium-eater rises in the morning refreshed with his intellect as bright as ever, while alcohol produces bad after-effects, insomnia or interrupted sleep, especially on those who do hard mental work, followed by depression and loss of appetite. Moreover, I do not think that opium produces delirium or insanity, or is an incentive to vice and crime as alcohol. In alcohol drinkers there is generally a craving for increasing the quantity of spirits, and with many it becomes their all-absorbing passion, while the opium-eater seldom increases his dose. Opium is not the primary cause of certain diseases of the kidneys and liver as alcohol is. It has saved many lives and has been the means of prolonging, in comparative comfort, the lives of many individuals, especially of those subject to chest, intestinal complaints and malarial fevers. It has an action in cutting short the cold stage of intermittent fevers and lessening the intensity and duration of the second stage. if administered at the commencement of the first stage. Opium does the same work for the labouring classes in India that coca does in Peru and other parts of South America. My opinion on the effects of opium were expressed in my presidential address delivered before the Grant Medical Society in 1879 and again referred to in 1889.

Answering Mr. Pease, Dr. Lisboa said he would not advise anyone in good health to take opium. He did not think the opium habit was one which necessitated the constant increase of the drugs when he wrote a work on botany, entailing great mental exertion, he found great benefit from the use of opium.

HOW GIVEN TO CHILDREN.

Dr. Edulji Nusserwanji, G.G.M.C., Bombay, said: My observations on the use of opium are confined to Bombay, where I have been practising for the last 35 years. Here opium is very commonly given by the Hindus and some of the Mahomedans to their little ones with the object of keeping them quiet. It is generally given after the third month, and is continued almost to the end of the second year. It is given in the shape of what is called Bala-goli (pill for the child) which contains some aromatics and carminatives in addition to opium. When the children who get these pills are properly nourished no bad effects are seen, but when as among the poor and labouring classes the children are left at home without nourishment for some hours while the parents are out at work, they become emaciated, and suffer from effects of malnutrition as diarrhœa, sloughing of the cornea, &c., but such instances are very rarely seen in these days. Among grown-up people it is principally used by the Mahomedans and the Hindus, more especially those who have come from Cutch, Kathiawar, Marwar, Luchnow, Delhi, Cambay and Nizam Hyderabad. Some use it as remedial agent for the relief of pain, some for checking diarrhœa, and some for checking attacks of asthma. Others use it as a stimulant, tonic and on aphrodisiac; and for such purposes generally combine it with such substances as musk, amber, saffron, pearl, quinine and aromatics. Taken for such purposes and in small doses it seems to produce no bad effects whatsoever on the mental and physical condition of the consumer, nor does it demoralise him in any way. The opium eater is

ALWAYS QUIET AND HARMLESS.

I have seen some live to a good old age, and in the enjoyment of good health. It is generally used in the from of pill, but is sometimes used in the form of a liquid extract known as kasumba. It is very rarely smoked here. In the solid form its action is slow. It first stimulates the nervous system, afterwards produces sleep. I have not seen it used as a prophylactic against fever, but it is sometimes given by *vaids* in the cold stage of fever. I have not seen its habitual use lead to such serious consequences as those which follow the use of alcohol, and its moderate habitual use does not necessarily produce-structural changes in the organs, whilst the habitual use of alcohol does produce structural changes in the liver, nervous tissue, &c. Taken in excess opium as well as alcohol are injurious and poisonous. The habit of taking opium once established is difficult but not impossible to give up, and I have succeeded in some instances where it had not been used as a remedial agent, in inducing the consumers to gradually diminish the quantity they consumed, and ultimately to give it up. Its disuse does not necessarily lead to the use or abuse of other drugs or of alcohol. The habitual moderate use of opium produces no deleterious effects on the mental faculties of the consumer, nor does in interfere with his ability to conduct his business successfully, but on the contrary stimulates him, and enables him to do his work efficiently. The moderate use of opium is not considered disgraceful.

ANOTHER REPUDIATION OF THE PETITION.

Dr. Eduljee asked, by the President, said that he was nor aware until he was informed by Mr. Rustim, Chief Inspector of Opium, that his signature appeared in the petition. He then told Mr. Rustim that he did not remember having signed the petition, adding that if he did so, it was either under misrepesentation or without reading the contents. If he read the contents he would never have signed it, as the statements made therein were quite opposed to the view he held on the subject.

In reply to Mr. Fanshawe, witness said that he did not exactly remember when he was informed of the fact of his signature appearing on the petition, but it must be in the month of November last. Previous to that he had no knowledge of it. He was aware that children were given opium with good effects, and he could not have signed the petition, as the statements made therein totally disagreed with his own views. He also wrote to that effect to Mr. Horne.

Mr. Pease: What is your practice with regard to signing petitions?—I have really no idea of this petition. I do not know under what circumstances I signed the petition in question, and I wrote to Mr. Horne that if had signed it I withdrew or repudiated it.

By Mr. Pease: If I have not signed, it must be a forgery.

Witness then mentioned an instance in which he had persuasions, induced an Afghan, named Abdul Rehman Shah, to decrease the quantity of opium to one-fourth of what he was previously taking. He had came from Persia and was suffering from fever and dysentery which made him look emaciated. He was usually taking nearly 20 grains of opium, which he brought down to five grains, and this produced an improvement on his general condition. Opium-taking did not increase fever, but it might interfere with speedy recovery.

FURTHER MEDICAL EVIDENCE.

Dr. J. A. da Gama, L.M., Bombay, stated, I have been practising physic for the last twenty-two years in Mandvi, Bombay, among the Khojas, Memons, Banias, Bhatias, Lohanas and Marathas. Both men and women use opium habitually. generally after 30 years of age, in some cases earlier, but then for some ailment or other. The proportion is larger among the Mahomedans than among the Hindus, the percentage of opium-eaters among the former being about 8 or 10 per cent. I have no experience of the effects of the abuse of opium, but those who use it habitually have their physique improved and have never had their moral condition in any way lowered by its use. Usually, in this district, people take twice a day—at 6 a.m. and at 6 p.m.—in the form of a pill, about a grain each, but the quantity is increased only up to the production of the desired effect, and not more, i. e. just enough to give the individual sufficient stimulus; and I have actually seen taken as much as 80 grains a day, i.e. 40 grains in the morning and 40 in the evening, without the least inconvenience to the individual, both physically, and morally. I cannot say that opium is used here as a prophylactic, but for a long time I had prescribed with success a grain of opium with 10 grains of quinine in cases of ague. This dose shortened both the cold and hot stages of the fever, which was not the case when quinine alone was administered. So far from seeing consequences, from habitual use of opium, as serious as those which might arise from the use of alcohol, I have found beneficial effects from its use in various cases, and markedly in some cases of habitual drunkards. I have by the administration of opium reclaimed some drunkards who, by indulging in other vices in consequence, or as an accompaniment of the alcohol abuse, had so debased themselves as to squander their fortunes, and had reduced their families almost to beggary, but who now, thanks to the regular use of opium, have retrieved both their moral character and their worldly affairs. Should the Commissioners desire, I am in a position to produce before them one or two examples of such cases.

PILLS FOR CHILDREN.

Opium is administered to children in the form of pills called "balla golis," or baby pills, containing a minute quantity of opium, and several aromatics and carminatives. When I first settled in this district, 22 years since, such pills were administered universally to the children until they had reached the age of 2½ or 3 years. I had been taught in the Medical College that the use of opium produced in children marasmus. I, therefore, used all my influence with the well-to-do people in this district to induce them to abandon the administration of balla golis to the children of their families. I have succeeded in this to a very large extent, but I find that the children to whom balla golis were not given, have not fared better nor worse than those to whom they had been given. I had seen, and I still see, emaciated children to whom opium is being given, but they belong chiefly to poor classes of the inhabitants; further inquiries have convinced me that emaciation is not due so much to the administration of opium or balla golis to the children as to the want of proper and timely nourishment. It is chiefly owing to long-intervals nursing that make children thin. Now, however, I do not object to the administration of balla golis to the children, as I find them decidedly beneficial in early life, when children suffer from diarrhœa, flatulence, &c. When only a moderate quantity of opium is taken, no evil effects will result. So also with regard to the moderate use of alcohol, which I take it to be the consumption of that quantity which will not affect the head of the individual taking it. There is another distinction between the habitual use of opium and that of alcohol, namely, the stimulus afforded by opium is more lasting and more invigorating than that given by alcohol, which is temporary, and may serve as an adjunct to food, and in this wise the opium-eater does not wish for more when he has had his required quantity of opium, whereas an alcohol-drinker does take occasionally more than is good for him. The contrast between opium and alcohol becomes more salient when their abuse is considered. An opium-eater, when he takes it in excess, will have to lie down until its effects are worn away, and at most he may do harm to his constitution (which I doubt, having seen that opium-eaters have a long life); whereas an habitual drunkard, besides causing irreparable damage to his internal organs, is, while intoxicated, dangerous to himself and to his fellow-creatures. I do not think that anybody has heard that a man was taken to a police chauki for being an opium-eater, whereas the police records are full of the pranks of drunkards. I beg to hand in a copy of a letter written by me, in Nov. 1891 in reply to that addressed to me by the Secretary of the Anti-Opium Society, requesting me to sign a petition to the House of Commons by the medical men of Bombay, which will give an idea of my views regarding the opium question for a long time past. I refused to sign the petition.

MEDICAL WITNESSES.

Dr. Temulji Bhicaji Nariman, L.M., private practitioner, Bombay, said: I am a medical practitioner of twenty-one years' standing. My practice is limited to Bombay alone. I am practising among all classes of the inhabitants, both European and native, but largely among the Parsees. I think opium is used to a very limited extent by the people in Bombay, excepting Hindus and Mahomedans; the other races seldom if ever resort to it as a luxury. A very small percentage uses it habitually for some physical ailment, but the number is infinitesimally small. Out of a population of 830,000, about 7,000 eat opium and 600 smoke it according to the Census report. I do not think more than a score among the Parsees eat opium. They never smoke it. The Marwaris among the different races I treat, are the largest opium-eaters, I believe one in twenty eat opium. The effects of opium are either stimulant or narcotic in proportion to the dose taken. Age, sex, diet, individual peculiarity, and a variety of other causes influence its effects. In moderate dose, to habitual consumer the effects are not prejudicial to his health and it does not affect him physically or morally in the least. I can describe the symptoms of abuse as read in books, but I have never seen a single case of abuse of opium, except in accidental or suicidal poisoning. Some of my patients taking opium are very shrewd men of business, trading on an extensive scale. All those who take opium eat it from two to five or ten grains once or twice daily, generally twice. I have seen a large number of opium-smokers who smoke chandul and madat in the different opium dens. If I observed anything prejudicial, it was the place where they generally clubbed together. The rooms were small, with hardly any ventilation, and likely to suffocate one by the prevention of fresh air. But with all these drawbacks I never saw one living skeleton, as described by some observers. I saw men of all ages from twenty to eighty years old. There were some who had haggard, wasted countenances and thin bodies, but they were sufferers from chronic dysentery, asthma and such other chronic complaints of from two to thirty years' standing. They were generally people of the working classes; also tailors, barbers, weavers, carpenters, &c. Opium is used to cut short an attack of ague. Given in the cold stage, I have seen it cut short an attack of fever. It very often shortens or aborts an attack of coryza or cold and its subsequent effects. It is used as a prophylactic against asthma by some with good effects. It is also used by patients suffering from diarrhœa and rheumatism. I think it is very difficult to give up the habit of taking opium, but I know of cases where, after years of habitual use, patients have given it up altogether without resorting to any other stimulants; but the majority of natives would take to other harmful stimulants if opium is prohibited.

AN UNFORTUNATE RESULT OF THE COMMISSION.

So far as I have seen, opium has no deleterious effect on the mental faculties of the moderate consumers. On the contrary they carry on their business with marked ability and foresight, and are expert in calculation. I have seen numberless cases in which balla golis are used by nursing mothers for their children. I always discourage the use of them. I have some children thriving on these pills, especially of the middle and upper classes; but ill-fed and badly nourished children suffer from them. One unfortunate result of this Commission would be the increased use of opium, as its virtues have been so highly extolled by medical and other witnesses and so widely circulated all over India. I suppose natives of India can tolerate a larger dose than Europeans.

THE CASE IN A NUTSHELL.

Mr. Manekji D. Cama, L.M. and S., Joint Honorary Secretary, Grant College Medical Society, said: My observations apply to the City of Bombay and its vicinity, and chiefly to Mahomedans and Hindus, and a few Chinamen and Parsees. Opium is used habitually by a very small percentage of the population of Bombay, at the most perhaps 20 per mille, but it is used casually to a large extent by natives of all nationalities and creeds, as it is the commonest of all household remedies. The use of opium taken in moderation—say not more than 10 grains a day—is not injurious in any way either as regards the moral or physical condition of the consumer. On the contrary, it is decidedly beneficial to people in the condition of life who habitually use it, such as poor Hindus and Mahomedans. They are generally very hardworked, their food is poor in quality and quantity, they live in and ill-ventilated places, and as they mostly sleep in the open air, they are enabled to work so hard, digest their bad food, and cope with chill and damp only by the use of opium. The abuse of opium, as of everything else, is bad, both physically and morally, but not so bad as the abuse of spirits, bhang, and other intoxicants, inasmuch as the opium sot injures himself only, and there is no tendency to become aggressive and do harm to those around him, whereas the alcohol sot easily becomes quarrelsome, aggressive, and violent, and thus becomes dangerous to society. Opium is used as a prophylactic in cough, asthma, fever, diarrhœa, cramps, colic, toothache, diabetes, dysentery, and for the prevention of chills, the king of causes of all diseases, and with very good results indeed. With all the various resources of medical aid in Bombay the mass of the Hindu and Mahomedan population rely upon a few cheap indigenous drugs, of which opium is the chief. Though opium is used habitually by the natives, it does not lead to consequences so serious as result from the use of alcohol, whether taken in exces, or in moderation. Opium in moderation helps digestion, promotes the elimination of deleterious products of tissue change, braces up and gives tone to the system, enables it to work hard, and bear privation with fortitude. It is cheap, and this is a "sine qua non" with the poor. I do not think it is at all difficult to break the opium habit, except for those who suffer from some chronic incurable disease, which is sure to return on stopping opium. But by those who take it only as a stimulant or for some acute malady, the habit is easily broken. Some lascars while on land are known to take opium, while at sea they stop it without inconvenience, and the same is the experience in the jails, where opium-eaters have to do without it.

MR. JEHANGIR'S BOOK.

In answer to further questions, the witness said: The farmers of rice who have to work in water commonly eat opium during the monsoon. During the dry climate they do not consume opium to such an extent as they do during the monsoon. They take it as a protective against chill. My visits to opium dens were paid during the months of October, November, and December, 1893. When I went there the last time I was told that the licensed shops were to be closed. So what I paid visits to were licensed shops and not clubs. I was attended by a short-hand writer who took down statements of the opium-eaters and those statements were afterwards published in the form of a book. I am not the author of the book. The book is published by Mr. Rustom Pestonji Jehangir. The statements appearing in the book were mostly taken in my presence by the short-hand writer. I can vouchsafe for the accuracy of the statement. My services were not specially engaged for the purpose, but I volunteered to visit the dens. Some of the witnesses have said before the Commission that people who take opium are unable to work in water, but my experence is contrary to that. The short-hand writer understood Hindustani, a language commonly understood by both Hindus and Mahomedans. The short-hand writer understood the language in which questions were put to and answers recived from the opium eaters. The book of Mr. R. P. Jehangir is a series of statements made by the opium smokers. There was only one solitary instance in which I heard a complaint at the den that 'we are ruined by the habit.' But I subsequently learnt that he was not himself an opium smoker, and he was sent there by the Missionaries to make that statement.

Members of the Commission were given a copy of Mr. Rustom's book, but as it was necessary that it should be put in formally, Dr. Kama was asked to formally send over a copy of the book to the Commission, and it would be recured as formally put in.

MAHOMEDAN'S LARGE CONSUMERS.

Mr. A. T. Bocarro, L. M. & S. and J. P., medical practitioner, Bombay, said: The Bombay East Indians number about 60,000 souls. Amongst these opium is not consumed as a rule, but rather as an exception. About 1 in 2,000 may be habituated to its use. The Europeans and Eurasians do not take opium. The Mahomedans take opium in the proportion of about 500 per mille. The upper and lower classes of this community, excepting the more educated persons, take opium as a general rule. It is also universally used as a soporific for infants. The Banias, Bhatias and other classes of Hindus take opium in the proportion of about 100 per 1,000. From those people with whom I have come into contact, whether as patients or socially I have not observed any ill-effects from the use of opium when taken in small or moderate doses, whether morally or physcally. In fact, no very decided effects can be traced morrily on the condition of thr user. It is used as an aphrodisiac from a mistaken popular notion that it possesses such properties, chiefly by those in whom the virile powers are at an ebb or entirely lost. Its effect is to render the mind active and the imagination vivid; hence its aphrodisiac effects. Its general use besides the above is to relieve pain, to allay mental worry, and to stay the effects of hunger in the poorer classes, whence arises its habitual use. Therapeutically it relieves pain of a rheumatic or neuralgic character, acts as an astringent in bowel complainss, and as a direct sedative on coughs or lung affections, and as a soporific in distressed conditions of the brain and general nervous system. It is employed as a soporific in wakefulness and mental worry, and is principally in use as a soporific for infants by both the upper and lower classes of Mahomedans and Hindus. Amongst the upper classes it is used to procure quiet and rest to infants and the parents themselves;—in the lower working classes, to ensure sleep during their absence from home. The effect on the physical condition of the user and general appearance as regards nutrition of the body is almost nil if taken in small doses and coupled with good living and a sufficiency of food. In fact, it produces a beneficial effect upon the general constitution of the user. When, however, it is taken in large or increased doses repeatedly, its beneficial effects are lost; firstly, because the nervous system is repeatedly stimulated unnecessarily, and secondly, because less food is taken, the appetite being lost or impaired. Hence follows emaciation and loss of colour of complexion, &c. In excessive doses, all the above conditions are augmented, the circulatory and urinary system being implicated. Hence follows extreme lassitude, inability for any mental or physical work, and exhaustion.

PROHIBITION WOULD INCREASE THE CONSUMPTION OF HEMP DRUGS.

Opium sustains the mental and muscular powers of the individual more so than alcohol, which decidedly lessens the capacity for active muscular exertion; the mental faculties too being only temporarily stimulated. I believe that a consumer of opium is able to bear a low temperature and other climacic influences to greater advantage than one taking alcohol under the same circumstances of life. In large doses opium checks the various secretions of the body, without producing degerative changes. Alcohol checks them, producez degenerative changes in the liver and circulatory system at large. It seems difficult to give up the use of opium, even more so than that of alcohol If compelled to give up, it will most probably be followed by the use of Indian hemp by the poorer classes of the people, which is a drug much more injurious than either opium or alcohol. The more educated and richer classes may substitute alcohol instead, but alcohol being strictly prohibited by both the Mahomedan and Hindu religions, the substitution will not be looked, upon with favour by either of these communities. Alcohol could not be easily substituted for opium by the poorer classes, as alcohol is at least four times dearer than opium; hence its suppression will be most likely followed by the use of Cannabis Indica. Since alcohol is substance which is religiously prohibited by both the Mahomedan and Hindu religions, the suppression of opium and its substitution either by alcohol or Indian hemp will not be very acceptable to either of these races. Again, all classes of people over the world, so to say, from the most barbarous to the highly civilized, have recourse to some kind of nervine tonic and stimulant, whether for pleasure, or to contoract the depressing effects of mental toil and bodily fatigue; the use of opium for the people of India cannot, therefore, be too strictly prohibited, without producing disastrous effects upon the country at large.

DISSATISFACTION AMONGST THE PEOPLE.

The masses of the people of India, with the exception of the educated classes, seem to be more or less dissatisfied with the Government on account of taxation and general poverty existing amongst the working classes, and rayats. And any further interference with their privileges and liberties would in all probability give rise to very general dissatisfaction amongst all classes of people, which may result in disastrous consequences to the Government and the country at large. The policy would, therefore, appear unwise.

In answr to questions by Mr. Mowray, Mr. Bocarro said: My name does appear on the petition addressed Parliament, but I do not agree with the terms of the petition. If I did sign it I changed my mind when I saw it the second time, hence I say that even if I had signed it I do not agree with the terms thereof. I saw the petition the second time when my attention was drawn by Mr. R. P. Jehangir. I found that the wording of the petition was changed. I mean to say that the petition before you is not worded in the same way as when it was presented before me for signature. I never saw the petition to which my name is attached until two or three months ago. And it was not until two or three months ago that I took steps to withdraw my signature. In fact I was so indifferent about it. Even if I had signed the petition as it is I have now good reasons before me to change my opinion. I have kept no copy of the petition.

To Mr. Pease: The individual who brought the petition before me for signature was a sepoy. I do not know his name. The petition was not a printed one, but was a munuscript.

AN ASSISTANT SURGEON'S VIEWS.

Khan Bahadur Dossabhoy Pestonji, G. G. M. C., Assistant Surgeon, Parakh Dispensary, Surat; Honorary Assistant Surgeon to His Excellency the Viceroy: Fellow of the University of Bombay, said: My observations, as regards the use of opium, are applicable to the district of Mahi Kantha, to the men belonging to the Gujarat Irregular Horse at Ahmedabad, and to the city of Surat, and the races to which they extend comprise of Mahomedans and Hindus. In the year 1860 I was appointed to the medical charge of the Mahi Kantha Political Agency at Sadra. In this station there were located at that time 1,000 horse belonging to the Gaekwar's Contingent. Their duties consisted in patrolling the district, in furnishing escort party to the Political Officers during their tour in the province, and in bringing mail from Ahmedabad to Sadra—a distance of about 20 miles. The men of the contingent comprised principally of two classes, viz., Marathas and Mahomedans. Amongst them there were a great many addicted to the use of opium, and they were considered more useful and active in the proper discharge of their duties. In the year 1862 I was appointed to the medical charge of the Gujarat Irregular Horse under the command of Colonel Harper. Most of these men comprised of Mahomedans, and some of them were opium-eaters. Since the year 1865 I have been stationed at Surat in medical charge of the Parakh Dispensary, where nearly 10,000 patients are treated annually. I have also extensive practice amongst the population of the city, which number about 110,000 people, of whom the greater portion consists of Mahomedans and Hindus. In the province of Mahi Kantha there were on an approximate, 20 people per cent. of the population addicted to the use of opium. Amongst the men of the Gujarat Irregular Horse the proportion was not so great as above, and in the city of Surat the consumption of opium is much limited, being only 2 or 3 per cent. of the whole population. Amongst a class of people called the Dheds, who are the principal operatives in the mills, the use of opium is almost unknown. In small doses it produces exhilarating and a tonic effect, it sharpens the appetite, and increases the power of endurance to physical work and mental application. It is a good anodyne in cases of rheumatism, gout and lumbago, When taken in large doses, it produces general emaciation of the system and a pale and sallow expression of countenance. It is used in two forms, solid and liquid. In the solid state is taken in the form of a pill or smoked in a pipe. In the liquid form it is mixed with pure water and filtered through cotton wool and then called kusumba, which is generally used amongst the rich on occasions of marriage and general rejoicings amongst their families. Opium is used as a probhy lactic in malarial districts against fevers, chills, and rheumatism. Also in cases of asthma and chronic bronchits it is used with beneficial results. In diabetes and chronic dysentery its effects are sometimes marvellous. I am of opinion that the habitual use of opium as indulged in by natives, does not lead to consequences as serious as those which follow the use of alcohol. When opium is taken in small doses it renews the vital powers and renders its user more able to endure fatigue and mental exertion. The well-to-do habitues take it to excite and increase their sexual powers. This cannot be said about the use of alcohol, the after-effects of which are languor and drowsiness. I am respectfully of opinion that any attempt to prohibit the growth and sale of opium would cause considerable discontent amongst the people and would lead to political complications with the Native States. It would also cause much deficit in the revenues of India, which in the present straitened condition of the finances would render the administration of the country extremely difficult.

A SURGEON FROM AHMEDABAD.

Assistant Surgeon B. H. Nanavati, Teacher, B. J. Medical School, Ahmedabad, said: I have held charge of dispensaries in parts of Gujarat, Dharwar, and Khandesh, and my observations regarding opium-eating are based on experience gained in the discharge of my professional duties extending over a period of about 12 years. I do not think the consumption of opium is unusually great either in the Ahmedabad city or in its districts, for in the former with a population of 144,451 souls, the amount of opium sold during the year 1892-93 was 4,781 lbs., and the latter, with a population of 780,845 souls, it was 15,104 lbs. only. A moderate use of opium does not debase a man's morals, or degrade his sense of truth or honesty, and I do not believe that the habitual opium-eater is the degraded and untrustworthy individual he is so often represented to be. As regards the physical effect of the opium habit, I may say that I do not share the belief of those who state that it produces ultimately a slow but steady degeneration of the muscular tissues with various disorders ultimately leading to extreme emaciation of the body. On the contrary I am of opinion that its moderate use enables a man to undergo a vast amount of toil and fatigue; that it happily makes him regardless of the minor evils of life, such as insufficient clothing, bad food, scanty meals, and renders him to a certain extent proof against exposure to cold, wet, &c. Such a person is generally hardy and well-conditioned, and fit for hard active work. When the habit is first contracted, opium produces a slight sense of drowsiness; but this wears off soon and its effect upon the habitual consumer is one of exhilaration of spirits. Its moderate use especially during the middle and old age brightens the intellect, promotes digestion and general activity of the body and sustains the system during periods of great hardship and exertion without any marked discomfort and pain. But opium, if taken in excess, is certainly deleterious in its effects, and produces those trains of symptoms such as derangement of digestion, diarrhœa and general wasting of the body, and which are so often erroneously supposed to result from its ordinary moderate use. Its moral effects under similar circumstances are equally pernicious. It weakens memory and moral control, often rendering the man unfit for any active occupation. Such cases, however, are very rarely met with, and I do not remember having come across more than one solitary instance of this kind in the course of my experience. The poor and perhaps the middle class persons generally begin the use of the drug for relief of some bodily infirmity or pain, as rheumatism, diarrhœa, dysentery, diabets, &c., whilst amongst some of the well-to-do and the better class of people it is perhaps used more as a luxury. The usual period at which the habit is contracted is between 35 and 40 years. People of this age use it more largely than those under it, with a view to prevent bodily waste to add to their comfort and to keep the various function of life in order and regularity. It is at this period of life and after that it proves of the greatest benefit. I have already mentioned that in the habitual consumer opium exerts a stimulating effect and that is the reason why the habit is kept up even after the relief of pain for which it was probably originally used.

FAR BETTER THAN ALCOHOL.

The evils attending the excessive use of this drug are very insignificant in comparison with those resulting from the abuse of alcohol. It is said that the use of opium (even in moderation) shortest life to a very great extent. I disagree from this view, for I know a large number of men, who, at 45—50 years and more, are in excellent health, with every prospect of a still further tenure of life before them. I do not think the general tendency of the opium-eater is to increase the dose gradually to any great extent. I believe, however, that it is a somewhat difficult task, often requiring great firmness of mind on the part of the individual, to give up the habit altogether. Where the habit is however not complicated by disease, and where it is used in moderation, it can be overcome, and no marked evil effects or suffering will result on its sudden and complete stoppage. For the first few days, however, it creates an intense craving for the drug, which renders the man miserable for the time. Opium does not impair the mental faculties of the habitual consumer. The Marwaris, though habitual opium-eaters, are, nevertheless, a shrewd, businesslike class of people. I believe, therefore, that bearing in mind the peculiarties of the climate, the habits of the people, and their avocations often requiring them to undergo excessive bodily fatigue and extertion under a tropical sun, with perhaps a diet not far removed from semi-starvation, the use of opium in moderation, far from being a vice, is a real boon to the poor.

THE DRUG IN KATHIAWAR.

Mr. G. B. Prabhakar, L.R.C.P., Bombay Medical Practitioner, said:—My observations are applicable to Gohelvad Prant, one of the four districts of Kathiawar, and to the city of Bombay with respect to both Hindus and Mahomedans. In Gahelvad its use in general. It largely enters into the social customs of Rajputs and Kathis, the two dominant castes of the Prant, no gathering, either social or State, being complete without Kusumba or opium, drink sipping. Kunbis or cultivators and other labouring classes who have to work hard in inclement weather, as well as artizan classes of of whom patient and steady work is required, indulge more or less in this drug. Though they are not so much addicted to the use of this drug as Hindus, Musalmans nevertheless contribute a large percentage to the opium consuming population of the Prant; Banias or traders, though otherwise a very sober people, are not quite free from this habit, and even Brahmins have solitary instances of opium-eaters among them. But these two castes are comparatively small. I would put the proportion per mille of persons using opium at about 159, mostly males, though women in this part of the country are not quite free from the use of this drug; these cases are few and far between, and it is taken as a remedy for some chronic complaints rather than for intoxication. In Bombay the proportion is small, the habit being more or less confined to persons hailing from Kathiawar, North Gujerat, Central Provinces, and Upper India. Among the Dekhanis the use of this drug is limited to labouring classes, who administer it to their infants in the form of pills. I have not come across cases where moderate use of opium has led to physical deterioration or moral degradation. I have seen many respectable persons 60 to 70 years old, who, though using the drug for the last 30 or 40 years, keeping good health for their period of life. I do not believe that moderate use of opium leads to any untoward consequences. There is no change in appearance, and it is often very difficult to distinguish by appearance a consumer from a non-consumer. And even when a person abuses the drug he suffers rather in body than in morals. The abuse of the drug results in physical inactivity, dulness of intellect, and emaciation. Opium is used as a prophylactic with considerable benificial results in the following diseases:—Dyspepsia, diarrhœa dysentery, malarial fever, cold, rheumatism, neuralgia, and diabetes. In some cases it acts as an antiperiodic and when taken in cold stages it cuts short the cold stage. The consequences of the habitual use of opium are not as serious as those which follow the use of alcohol. In the majority of cases it is found difficult to break off the habit, but it is not so difficult as is generally supposed. I have seen several persons giving up the habit in their old age, and I have made prisoners break off the habit. Moderate use of opium does not shorten life as is generally supposed. I have seen habitual opium-eaters living to the old age of 80 years and in good health.

ANOTHER MEDICAL WITNESS.

Dr. Vishram Ramji Ghole, Assistant Surgeon (Retired), Honorary Assistant Surgeon to his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, Poona, said: My observations are applicable chiefly to the district of Poona, though I have served at Ahmedabad, Bassein in Thana Zilla, Bombay Sir Jamsetji Jijibhai Hospital, Karachi, Kumta in Karwar Zilla, Mhow, Sehore, Jhansi, Gwalior, &c. My observations are applicable to all classes of people. In the district of Poona grown up persons eat opium, and opium is given to children. About 60 per cent. of children amongst Hindus and Musalmans are given opium. It is commenced when the children are about a month old or earlier; and continued until they are about 2 years old. The quantity given to each child averages from one-twenty of a grain to one grain for a dose given morning and evening. The quantity taken by grown up persons averages from one to twenty grains daily taken morning and evening. In exceptional cases, the quantity taken averages from one to two drachms or more daily. The proportion of persons taking opium amongst the urban population is about 20 per mile and about 2 per mile amongst the rural population. In moderate doses, such as are commonly used by the working and other classes of people, the effect of opium is as follows:—It excites and exhilarates the person, his intellect is brightened, he feels invigorated (until he is under the influence of the drug) to do his daily work; he is able to digest his food better. Morally speaking, the opium eater is quiet, non-quarrelsome. and is just as well-behaved as one who does not take opium. His body is pretty well nourished if he gets sufficient food. By long usage his features look haggard and careworn. His life is in no instance shortened, but on the contrary, it seems to be prolonged and is rendered more enjoyable, especially in old age. Abuse or excessive use of the drug is baneful both mentally and bodily. The opium-eater looks haggard in the face, is emaciated, looks dull and inactive, and is generally unfit for work. He loses his appetite and suffers from constipation of the bowels, nervous and mental weakness, but such cases are few and are found only amongst the idlers and mendicants. Opium takes about half an hour to act when taken in the shape of pills. When taken as solution it acts sooner than when taken as a pill. When smoked, it has effect in a minute. Somoking of opium acts more injuriously on the system than eating it. Dull and heavy looks, wrinkled face, debility, emaciation, some deterioration of the mental faculties, moral weakness, depraved appetite, &c., are more pronounced in opium smokers than in opium eaters It does not seem to be used as a prophylactic for any disease in this part of the country. In moderate doses, the habitual use of opium brightens the mental faculties and produces a state of exhilaration and invigorates the body and mind and enables the consumer to perform his mental and bodiey work better and without feeling fatigued. If he do not get his usual dose then his mind becomes confused, his attention is diverted, his bodily powers become languid and he feels exhausted; there is running from his nose his bowels become relaxed and he cannot digest his food properly,—in a word, he becomes uncomfortable and unhappy

A POONA MEDICAL MAN.

Mr. Ganesh Krishna Garde, L. M. and S., Private Medical Practitioner, Poona, said: My observations are applicable to Poona District, and to Hindus, Mahomedans and Native Christians. In this district opium is given to children as a soporific, calmative, or soothing agent. It is commenced after they are a few weeks old, and is continued in gradually increased doses, until they are about three years old. The dose ranges, according to their age, from one-sixth of a grain to a grain and a half, morning and evening. About 90 per cent. of the children of this city are habitually drugged with opium. The proportion of opium-drugged children in the district is a little less than this. I have estimated it at 75 per cent. The proportion of opium-eaters among the adult population of the city is approximately 9 per mille and in the district about 1 per mille. The majority of these are Mahomedans. Opium is consumed in this province in two ways, viz., eating and smoking. It is eaten by the habitual consumer, in the form of a pill, generally twice a day—morning and evening. The average dose in the case of adults is 8 grains. The majority, however, eat much less than this (about half that quantiey), and a few (and these are exceptions) consume as much as 48 grains at a time. There are two ways of smoking opium prevalent in this district—madak (vulgarly called madat) and chandu. Madak is thus prepared:—A little opium is boiled with water. The resulting decoction is strained and again boiled down to the consistence of an extract. One tola of this is mixed with a quantity of leaves of babul (Acacia Arabica), the whole beaten together and made into 24 pills. One of these pills is put in a kind of hooka, kindled and smoked. An ordinary smoker will use on an average 6 pills (containing 48 grains of opium) each time. The prepartion of chandu differs from madak in not containing a diluent like the leaves of babul. A liquid extract of opium is kept ready. It is condensed into a solid pill by the heat of a lamp just at the time of smoking. The dose for an average smoker is about the same as madak. Since the closing of the shops where the preparations of opium for smoking (chandu and madak) could be obtained ready prepared, and were allowed to be smoked by Government license with in the premises, the number of these smokers has lessened. There are said to be, however, about 500 opium-smokers in this city. It is used as such by some old men in this province for preventing cold, bronchial catarrh and senile asthma, and, I think, with success. The effects of the habitual use of opium are much less serious than those of alcohol. The effects of the moderate doses of opium and alcohol, both on body mind, are well nigh similar, with this difference, that while both act as general stimulants and exhilarants, the intellectual and imaginative faculties are more exalted by opium than by alcohol. The secretions with the exception of perspiration are diminished by opium, while they are mostly increased by alcohol. The sleep following the exciting effect in the case of opium is more sound than that of alcohol, but the after effects of the former are in many cases especially in novices, more marked and disagreeable. Taken in excess, both lead to serious consequences, those produced by alcohol being by far the most dangerous.

THE RESULTS OF EXCESS.

Although excessive indulgence in opium produces, in the long run, the most miserable condition of body and mind by inducing dyspepsia, languor, nervous prostration, poverty of blood, emaciation, and a cachectic condition of the body and weakness of memory and intellect, yet it is not known to produce any organic mischief in any organ of the body nor to induce any particular disorder of the dody or mind beyond those mentinoned above, nor to shorten life. Alcohol, on the other hand, when habitually indulged in, in excess, is known to produce gastric catarrh, congestion, cirrhosis and abscess of the liver, hœmorphoids, diabetes, gout acute and chronic, Bright's disease, gravel, ascites, laryngitis, palpitation, angina pectoris, heart-disease, delirium tremens, dipsomania and other forms of insanity, in many cases chracterised by suicidal and homicidal tenencies, moral degradation, apoplexy, atrophy of the brain and paralysis. It acts preeminently as a cause of shortening life, and producing premature old age. The connecion of drunkenness with crime is also a well-established fact. No lesion of any kind in any part of the body, attributable to opum, has been ever discovered.

IMPOSSIBLE TO GIVE UP THE DRUG.

A habitual cosumer of opium finds it impossible to give up the habit, and when given up, it is in many cases likely to be substituted by the use of alcohol or other intoxicating drugs, as ganja, bhang, charas, dhatura, &c. The habitual moderate use simply stimulates and exalts the mental faculties, and instead of interfering with the consumer's business, it enables him to do more work. The habitual excessive use of it, however, renders the mental faculties dull, and so interferes with the consumer's ability to conduct his business successfully. From the foregoing observations it is evident that no case has been made out for legislative interference with the growth of poppy and manufacture and sale of opium in British India, and that the system at present followed for regulating and restricting the opium traffic can control the consumption of opium as far as it is practicable. Any further restriction on the consumption of the drug is sure to be followed by the greater evil of intem[illegible] or resort to other drugs. The idea of tot[illegible] prohibition, therefore, is, under existing circum[illegible]stances, mischievous and calculated to do more [illegible] evil than good, both from a medical and finan[illegible] point of view. Before such a sprea[illegible] thought of, the liquor shops that have [illegible] all over the country, and the number of which is increasing every year, should be closed each and all, and the growth, manufacture and sale of the hemp narcotics should be prohibited all over the kingdom.

The commission then adjourned until the morning.

THE MADRAS EVIDENCE.

Subjoined is the evidence given by witnesses from Madras on Tuesday and unavoidably held over from yesterday:—

Hajee Mirza Mohdy Ispahani, Member of the Harbour Trust Board, Madras, said: I am a merchant in Madras, am 55 years of age and my knowledge of the use of opium in India is confined to parts of the Bombay Presidency and this City. It is hardly necessary for me to say that opium has been in use for centuries past. It is used by Muhammadans as well as Hindus in various ways, and the habit of taking it is almost universal. It is taken by people of advanced age as a mild and beneficial stimulant and given to young children as a protection against colds, fevers, &c. There is scarcely a child brought up without opium having been administered to it in some shape or form. I have known very many people who have been using the drug more or less and whose mental and physical capabilities were as good as any average healthy person. I have rarely met with an opium consumer whose faculties were deranged. I have never heard of insnity being the consequence of its excessive use. In my opinion it will be very hard to partially or totally deprive millions of people of its use and who have been habituated to it. The habit may almost be said to be descended to them from their forefathers. Smoking opium is to a certain extent injurious if indulged in to excess, but the habit of doing so in India is not as universal as that of taking it internally. It does most harm in dry climates; in moist and marshy places it is very agreeable. As regards prohibiting its cultivation, it means loss of a large sum to the Indian revenue derived from this drug, which will probably have to be replaced by other means. Comparing the present state of India and the income of its population with the taxes levied on them, I consider such a course as highly undesirable and inexpedient. By limiting or prohibiting the opium production in India, should it be intended to stop the Chinese from its use, they can easily replace the deficiency in supply, by increasing their own cultivation of the poppy, and taking it from Persia and Turkey, where its cultivation is already in good progress. The Chinese require the Indian drug on account of its superiority, to mix with their own inferior stuff, and to stop its supply to them would be doing a great and unnecessary injury to India and assisting the Persians and Turks in the increase of its production. They can supply the drug cheap, as it is not heavily taxed by their governments, whilst the Indian article is almost overtaxed. In recent years the Persians in spite of the superiority of the Indian opium have been exporting 10 to 15,000 chests annually. It is sure to proportionately increase, should the Indian supply diminish or discontinue. It will also stimulate exports from Turkey.

MISSIONARY EVIDENCE.

Rev. W. Curties, Missionary, Methodist Episcopal Mission, Madras, said: Opium is smoked freely and the number of smokers is increasing in the city. The habit is indulged in by the Hindus of different castes and by Muhammadans. It is given to little children in sweetmeat and as a soporific. Old, middle-aged and young men are to be seen loitering about the dens and smoking. The general confession of the smokers is that the effect of opium on the physical system is very deleterious except the smoker can afford plenty of good food. The smokers for the most part are men of the laboring class and unable to afford a generous diet. The habit is contracted through association with opium smokers and afterwards continued because of the effect realised. The habit is practised without the knowledge of the families of the smokers, and generally in the vicinity of the opium shops. The habit deteriorates the moral sense of the smoker and renders him incapable of responding to good advice. The smokers acknowledged that one of the reasons they enjoyed the habit for was that it stimulated their sensual passions. That the effect of opium on them was to give a temporary incentive to work, but this lasted only as long as the effects, and no work could be done without the usual dose. That the habit does not allow of moderation: the tedency is to increase the dose; the only limit being want of means. That the use of opium leads some men to thieving and all to lying and deceit. One and all expressed their pleasure at the prospect of closing licenses as a protection to their children.

A DEPUTY COLLECTOR'S EVIDENCE.

Mr. W. Venkatapiah Pantulu Garu, Head Quarter Deputy Collector, Chatrapur, said: My evidence is based upon enquiries made in my division from time to time in consultation with people in general, especially with opium-eaters, smokers and sellers at different places, and is, I think, more or less applicable to the other divisions of the district. Eating of opium is commenced generally with a view to get rid of chronic complaints, such as stomach-ache, coughs of all descriptions, asthma, rheumatism and the like when other medicines proved ineffectual. In some cases opium is eaten as luxury. Moderate dose of opium is harmless and brightens intellect, strengthens muscular system and increases endurance. Old people are much benefited by its use under proper nourishment. Excessive use weakens body, but is not known to cause death. Using small doses daily is distinctly beneficial in all the diseases already named, especially in diabetes and as a preventive of diseases in malarious and unhealthy tracts. It enables to give staying power under severe exertion or exposure. Opium is smoked not for medical purposes but chiefly for luxury in this districts. It is looked upon as a disrespectful and mean habit. Habitual smoking of opium (maddat) deteriorates health. Excessive smoking induces all sorts of evils and even goes so far as to cause insanity and shotrness of life. Its use produces noxious effects, physical, mental and moral, and induces the consumer to commit crimes. It impairs the constitutions and injures digestion. It impairs the sight and produces a bloody appearance in the eyes. Opium eating produces, no ill effects on moral condition, nor will it make the consumer quarrelsome like alcohol. But the smoking of the maddat induces the habitual smoker to commit crime and to quarrel at times and spoils the private character of the smoker in society. The use of the maddat impairs the moral sense and induces laziness and habits of immorality. Both the consumers and others agree in thinking that manifold and serious dangers will attend the discontinuance of the opium consumption. Opium is the life and soul of its consumer. He can live without food, but not without opium. He cannot give up the habit as the physical ordeal is so severe, that his bones ache all over if he is deprived of it, and he can neither sleep nor work, and the agony becomes almost unbearable. Instances are not lacking in which the agonies of apparent danger of imminent death for want of their usual drug were completely and immediately comforted by the supply of even a small quantity than their usual ration. Some opium eaters are also smokers of opium and ganja as well as drinkers, but they are in a small proportion when compared with the pure opium eaters.

EVIDENCE OF A SYRIAN CHRISTIAN.

Mr. G. T. Vargese, B. A., Collector's Sheristadar, Malabar, said: I am a Syrian Christian and a native of Travancore. I have lived in Malabar for the last 16 years. For several years I was the Headmaster of the Basel Mission High School at Calicut. I entered the Revenue Department in 1884. I am personally acquainted with a considerable number of opium-eaters, especially among our people (Syrian Christians) and have had opportunities of observing their habits. Natives of Travancore, Cochin and Malabar, Christians and non-Christians, rich and poor alike, have come under observation. A gentleman who has held the opium contract in Travancore and Cochin for several years has supplied me with some useful information connected with the opium traffic. Other opium contractors have also placed similar information at my disposal. I have also made inquiries of opium dealers and consumers as well as of those who were in a position to place me in possession of facts which have come under their observation. Since my nomination as a witness, I have read as much of the literature on the subject of opium as I could get. I have thus tried to verify the result of my own observations and to get as much correct information as possible. Opium is used chiefly by the Syrian Christians, Jews and Muhammadans on this Coast. According to the last census there are—Syrian Christians 200,326, Muhammadans 975,069, Jews 1,294. Roughly speaking, 5 per cent. of the Native Christians 3 per cent. of the Muhammadans, and 20 per cent. of the Jews my be considered as opium consumers. From 5 to 7 tons are consumed annually. The percentage is fixed with reference to the number of opium consumers with whom I am acquainted in one or two localities wh[illegible]ere the habit is general. This rough percentage [illegible] would, I venture to think, be found to be abo[illegible] below the actuals. Amongst [illegible]e, rather than it is taken for non-m[illegible] the working classes or failing health. [illegible]dical purposes. Weakness accounts fo[illegible] ue to old age or other causes, tract[illegible] its use in some cases. In the hill [illegible] there is a belief that opium is a protection against fever. In Meenachil—a hill taluk in Travancore—it is resorted to as a priventive against fever. This statement is made on the authority of a printed book on Travancore. There are working men who go out for their day's work with only one are two grains of opium and a little hot water or conji water. They return home for their meals only in the evening after their day's labour. Native Christians rarely take to this habit but others do. In the towns, e.g. Alleppy and Quilon in Travancore, madak, the special preparation used in smoking, is indulged in by a few.

OPIUM HAS WHOLESOME EFFECT.

The moderate use of opium has a wholesome effect on the physical condition of the people concerned. Opium consumers whom I have seen have a strong and hardy constitution. They are weather-proof. This opinion is based on my experience of the classes already referred to viz., peasants and boatmen. They can stand any amount of work. All that is wanted is that the usual allowance of opium must be available for use at the proper time. The daily work is performed with enviable activity. There are people who, under ordinary circumstances, would be unable to pursue their daily avocations, but who, in spite of their old age, are able to turn out a good amount of work. I can point out specific instances in support of these statements. I do not, however, deny that the immoderate use of opium has resulted in the loss of flesh and in diminished nervous power. Very few instances of this kind have come under notice. As regards the moral condition I do not hesitate to say that no moral evils can be directly traced to the opium habit. So long as the chief motive to take opium is the relief of pain, cure of disease or a desire to work, and not sensual pleasure, the first step in the corruption of morals is wanting. It is sometimes asserted by the advocates of the suppression of the trade in opium that loss of moral power is one of the inevitable consequences of opium smoking. It makes a man or a woman increasingly selfish and blind to family claims. So far as opium eating among the Syrian Christians of this Coast is concerned, this statement is *not* true. On the contrary it is the desire to work for and maintain the family that helps to form the habit. In regard to China, where opium indulgence attains its greatest proportions, it is said "that the people are strong, healthy, active and lose none of their national characteristics through the daily use of opium. That on the contrary the majority of the working classes manifest far less evidence of the demoralization and physical degeneracy than occurs with the labouring classes of Europe who participate daily in an allowance of spirits." Whatever may be the force of this contention for China it can unhesitatingly be applied to the opium-consuming classes on the Malabar Coast. The general population will not willingly bear the cost of any prohibitive measures which neither they nor the opium-eating population want. The annual opium revenue derived by Travancore, Cochin and Malabar is about Rs. 85,000, while the cost of prohibitive measures if they are to be efficient, must be immensely more. The opium smuggler will carry on his trade notwithstanding the vigilance of the preventive departments.

WHAT SUDDEN STOPPAGE MEANS.

If measures were introduced whereby opium can be had only in chemists' and druggists' shops and for medical purposes alone, the consequences are better imagined than discribed. A portion of the population will be rendered miserable without any corresponding advantage. The opium consumer will try other stimulants which are more injurious. He will take to alcohol, ganja and other intoxicating drugs. Alcohol will impoverish the people and rapidly spread the evils which come in its train. Ganja-smoking will spread likewise with its concomitant dangers. Crime will increase. In this connection it is necessary to add that the opium-eater, after he has had his usual allowance of opium, cannot be induced to take a second dose at the invitation of another till his hour comes. He has fixed hours for taking opium and does not change them to please others. Not so with alcohol. It knows no refusal. Hence it may be said that opium stands at one end of the national economy while alcohol stands at the other. Opium teaches economy and alcohol extravagance.

AN INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE.

Colonel C. A. Porteous, Inspector-General of Police, Madras: siaid I have completed 37 years' service in India; the very early part (1857-60) of my service was spent with my regiment (27th Madras) in the suppression of the mutiny in North India. At that time the use of opium did not attract my notice in the least. It certainly would have done so, had it been used to any extent by the sepoys of my regiment. In May 1860, I joined the Police and have served with that department ever since. The early years (1860-69) of my Police service were spent in the Madura and Tinnevelly districts, where I saw but little opium used, and that chiefly medicinally. Since May 1871, I have been closely connected with the Police of the Northern range, commonly called "the Northern Circars," consisting of the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Jeypore, Godavari and Kistna of this Presidency, and I have an intimate acquaintance with the Hill tract (and people thereof). Opium is extensively used all over the Northen range, in the delta taluks as well as in the upland taluks and hill ranges. There is a very large market for it at Ambagipetta in the Amalapur taluk, or Central delta, of the Godavari district. The opium sold here is brought from Malva via Hyderabad and Juggiapett (Kistna district). Opium is used medicinally in its crude form in the shape of small pills, for diarrhœa, dysentery, fever, ague, rheumatism, &c.; in fact for nearly every disease. It is the stand-by of the native physician and of the people for every ill or ailment. Not only as a curative, but as a prophylactic, it is considered invaluable by the people (especially those of malarious tracts). Even here its uses do not end. It is administered in judicious doses as a sedative to women in pain and to small childern, while the comparatively poorly-fed man partakes of it as an invigorator. It gives him life and energy, assists his appetite and digestion, wards off fever and puts new strength into him. Without his opium a hill-man is listless and flaccid, fit for nothing. If kept long without it he gradually sinks; rheumatism and fever seize him and he becomes useless and decrepit. Opium is seldom used immoderately. I personally do not konw of a single case of the immoderate use of it; while of the benefits of the moderate use of it, I have seen much and have heard still more from the people themselves. While employed in 1880-81 in extinguishing the dying embers of the Rumpa rebellion my work in search of the rebels took me, with small parties of Police, all over the Hill tracts of the Godavari. The only constables who did not succumb to the malarious fever of those unhealthy regions were those who took their small pill of opium morning and evening.

OPIUM-TAKING AMONGST THE POLICE.

Repeatedly have constables come to me and asked for two or four annas to buy a little opium, and when I gave them what they wanted, how grateful they were and what a wonderful change the little opium pill effected. No doubt people, who accustom themselves to the use of opium, have a tendency to increase the doses of it in order to bring about the desired effect; still it is seldom taken to excess. It is an expensive article to most who use it, and the purchaser of a lamp of opium does not, like the arrack or toddy drinker, think of how much pleasure he will obtain from his purchase by a large consumption at one time. No, he knows that it is life to him, that if he consumes it too fast and has not the means to procure more, it means loss of appetite, stravation, ill-health from fever and perhaps death; therefore he husbands his opium, his great object being to make it last as long as he can, and takes only just enough for his regular dose. I have very recently visited the Golconda Hill tracts of the Vizagapatam district and Rumpa in the Godavari, both notoriously unhealthy regions. In the former I met people who came in from a distance of 20 miles to Lumsingi to purchase opium. On asking them what they had come for, they replied: "We have come to buy a little opium to take back to our homes, so that we and our families may partake of it and live." In the latter place (Rumpa) a Mokasdar, (Dhal Dora of Marivada) licensed to sell opium, complained bitterly of the trouble he had with the hill-people when his supply of opium ran short, and there was delay in replenishing the same. He said, "They must have it, or they give me trouble."

ALREADY AN EXPENSIVE DRUG.

Already opium is a sufficiently expensive drug, and the poor experience difficulty in obtaining it. It will be a bad day if it gets much more expensive, but it will be a still worse day if its growth and sale in India be interdicted. That will mean starvation, disease, misery to many in the Hill tracts, while others, driven to desperation, will probably raise disturbances more serious than any we have hitherto had to deal with. Opium is an absolute necessity to people inhabiting malarious tracts. It is more, it is a blessing to them. It has saved many a life, and it has harmed very few, while deprivation of it would kill thousands. Knowing this, I find [illegible] it difficult to understand or sympathize in the [illegible]ast with the sentiment against it. What good it has done, how infinitesimal the harm, compared with the mischief that toddy, arrack and other alcoholic drinks have done to Natives and Europeans! Opium does not incite persons to commit crime; it has the very reverse effect; whereas much crime can be put down to the use of alcohol. I know of no case of insanity caused by use of opium. For smoking purposes two preparations of opium are used—Madadh and chandoo. Even in the larger towns, there is seldom more than one opium-den or Madadh-khana, and here in the evening from 10 to 25 persons come and smoke quietly; they do not, as a rule, smoke themselves senseless and stupid as the Chinese usually do; they smoke for refreshment and as a sedative after a hard day's work. But even the worst opium-den has much less openly objectionable about it than a toddy shop or liquor tavern. In the one case such pleasure, as there may be, is enjoyed in silence, and there is little to offend sight or hearing. Very few people (Natives as well as Europeans) even know that there is such a place as an opium-den in a town. In the other, noise, vile language and fighting are prominent and constantly causing offence. Like every thing else the harm in opium is *not in the use*, but in the *abuse* of it. In my opinion the abuse of it is very insignificant compared to the vast benefits derived from the use of it. A few local enquiries in malarious tracts would convince the commission of the very great value of opium to the people.

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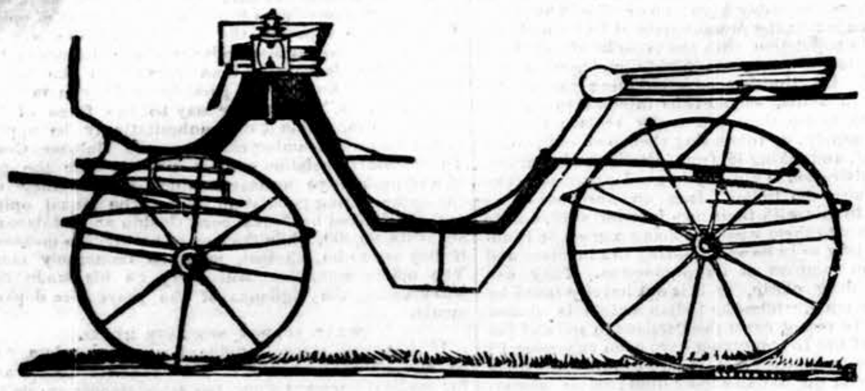

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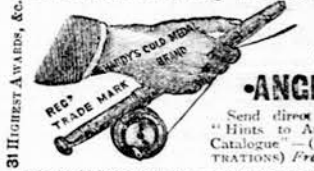

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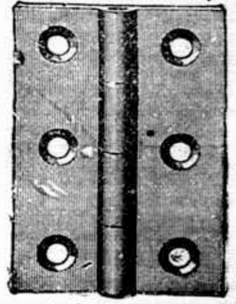

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